

# Thousands flee evil of 'ethnic cleansing'

INTO the early hours of yesterday morning, seven thousand people streamed out of the northern Bosnian town of Bosanski Novi to the safety of Karlovac in Croatia. Their tale concerns an evil not seen in Europe for fifty years: Mostly Muslims, they have fled terror, murder and "ethnic cleansing" resembling the prelude to the Nazi holocaust and Stalin's deportation of whole nations.

They talk of the transport of hundreds of people crushed into freight wagons, bodies floating down river, "disappearances" and of a brutal Serb mafia known as the "Spare Ribs". Unlike other Bosnian refugees, the thousands from Bosanski Novi have not fled fighting: they have been driven out by fear and expelled from their homeland. If their houses have not been burnt, they are being taken over by Serb refugees. These Bosniacs are victims of the ideology of an ethnically pure, greater Serbia.

Although Bosanski Novi had only a slight Serb majority, power was firmly in the hands of local Serbs because they constituted 60 per cent of the county's population. As Bosnia slipped into war the



After thousands of Bosnian Muslims were forced to seek refuge in Hungary earlier this month, hundreds more families in Bosnia-Herzegovina have been split up, packed on freight trains, shot at indiscriminately and expelled from their homeland. Tim Judah reports from Karlovac on the latest flood of refugees who have streamed into Croatia

local authorities secured military power by mobilising reservists, a call-up boycotted by Muslims. The police force was purged when Muslims refused to wear Serbian insignia. Since most people with guns and rifles had permits the authorities were able to collect the weapons, leaving Muslims with no means of defending themselves.

The ethnic purification of Bosanski Novi took place in two waves. In May, the residents of 11 nearby Muslim villages were rounded up at gunpoint and herded to one village. They were kept there for 18 days, crammed thirty to a house. They were then forced onto freight trains, men in the back wagons, women and children at the front. "As this was happening they fired on the crowds," Emsuda Krlic, 37, said. "We saw thirty or forty dead." There were up to three hundred people in each wagon. There was no food or water for four days.

"You crouch, you faint, you come to, you faint," said Namika Ekic, 31, whose baby was 15 days old at the time. Her sister Arifa said they knew the men who had forced them onto the trains. "They were our school friends and Serbian neighbours. They said they had been threatened with death if they did not drive us out. I don't believe them, they are all the same."

The Ekic sisters said that at one point some girls aged about 18 and 19 had been taken on the trains, ostensibly to fetch water. They were not seen again. After five days of travelling the men were sent back and imprisoned in Bosanski Novi's sports stadium. The women and children were expelled to Croatia and, as the latest convoy streamed out of Bosanski Novi, they were waiving to be reunited with their menfolk and families.

While people were being driven from the

villages a steady purge began in the town. "At first we just sensed things," said Samir, a young musician. "People were arrested and accused of wanting to blow up the bridge." He said that the television reception had been switched from Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, to Belgrade, the Serb capital. On June 2, anti-tank weapons were used to destroy the town's two mosques. The "Spare Ribs" donnied uniforms and quickly gained a name as the most brutal of the five Serb armed groups in town.

Muslim-owned cafés, shops and restaurants were blown up at night and houses were sprayed with bullets. An outlying suburb was shelled and houses were burned down by men in camouflage uniforms.

"There was not so much killing, it was just that nobody knew what was happening 100 metres away," Samir said.

The Bosnian town was festooned with Serb flags and Serb property was left untouched. The police launched raids to arrest able-bodied Muslim men. Almost all of those who have just arrived in Croatia said that they spent up to five days imprisoned in the sports stadium, and they estimated that up to a thousand people were held there.

Abdelhaid Dautovic, 23, said: "There

were 60 rounded up in my group. They fired into the air as they pushed us onto the bus. When we got there we were made to kneel with our hands behind our necks. They beat the older ones who could not do this with their rifle butts. We got tea and salami once a day and we slept in the shower and locker rooms by night. Everyone went to the toilet, one by one, once a day."

After a couple of days, Mr Dautovic said that the Serb guards asked for volunteers for their army. "About 150 went. They did it to protect their families."

The pattern was that after five days people were released. Meanwhile Muslims were sacked from their jobs and they hid indoors as Serbs patrolled the streets. A curfew was imposed, there was no electricity and all normal commercial activities ground to a halt.

While ordinary men passed through the stadium, local dignitaries, politicians and businessmen were taken to the Hotel Una, the headquarters of the Serbian military police. "I was kept for five days with a group of nine in the basement," said a

Continued on page 18, col 4

UN rescue, page 12

## TODAY IN THE TIMES

### BURIED IN THE PAST



The cover-up of how Marilyn Monroe died was so successfully stage managed that it has taken

30 years to uncover the truth Saturday Review page 15

### ALL IN THE MIND



Joe Joseph contemplates an out-of-the-body experience with a virtually real sex partner Saturday Review page 26

### OUT IN THE OPEN



Frances Bissell presents recipes for a perfect barbecue Weekend Times page 7

## US convenes war council over Saddam

FROM JAMIE DETHMER IN WASHINGTON AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

PRESIDENT Bush has called a council of war this weekend to discuss possible military action against Iraq. Yesterday, he curtailed campaigning in Ohio as anger mounted over Saddam Hussein's continued refusal to comply with UN demands for entry to the ministry agriculture ministry building in Baghdad, which is thought to contain details of Iraq's nuclear weapons programme.

Marlin Fitzwater, the White House Press Secretary, said Mr Bush would discuss enforcement action against Iraq with his national security advisers today. "This is probably the most serious situation that we face in Saddam's recurring defiance of UN resolutions." The question of issuing an ultimatum to Iraq is "still open and under discussion".

### Sisters are jailed for murder

TWO sisters were jailed for life yesterday after an Old Bailey jury convicted them of murdering Andrew Shaughnessy at her Battersea home last June.

The court had been told that Michelle Taylor, 21, had hatched a plot with her 19-year-old sister, Lisa, to kill Mrs Shaughnessy so that she could rekindle her affair with the victim's husband. The sisters lay in wait at the flat and stabbed her 54 times when she returned from work.

Later that day, Michelle Taylor returned with Mr Shaughnessy, a work colleague, and feigned horror at the sight of her victim's body.

The jury had been told that Taylor had slept with Mr Shaughnessy the night before his wedding, driven him to the church the next morning and been introduced to members of the bride's family as "a close friend".

After passing sentence the trial judge told the sisters they had been found guilty of a terrible crime. Mrs Shaughnessy's life had all been before her and "now it was no more", he said.

Report and background, page 3

White House officials said yesterday that America, Britain and France were still discussing what kind of ultimatum to deliver to Iraq. "We're reviewing a number of options," one said. James Baker, the Secretary of State, will discuss the issue with Douglas Hurd, the British foreign secretary, in Manila this weekend.

As the talks continued, the Pentagon confirmed that a four-ship amphibious battle force arrived in the Gulf yesterday to join a 13-ship battle group led by the aircraft carrier USS *Independence*, but the Pentagon said the movement of the force, led by the helicopter assault ship USS *Tarawa*, was not related to the increasing tensions between the allies and Iraq.

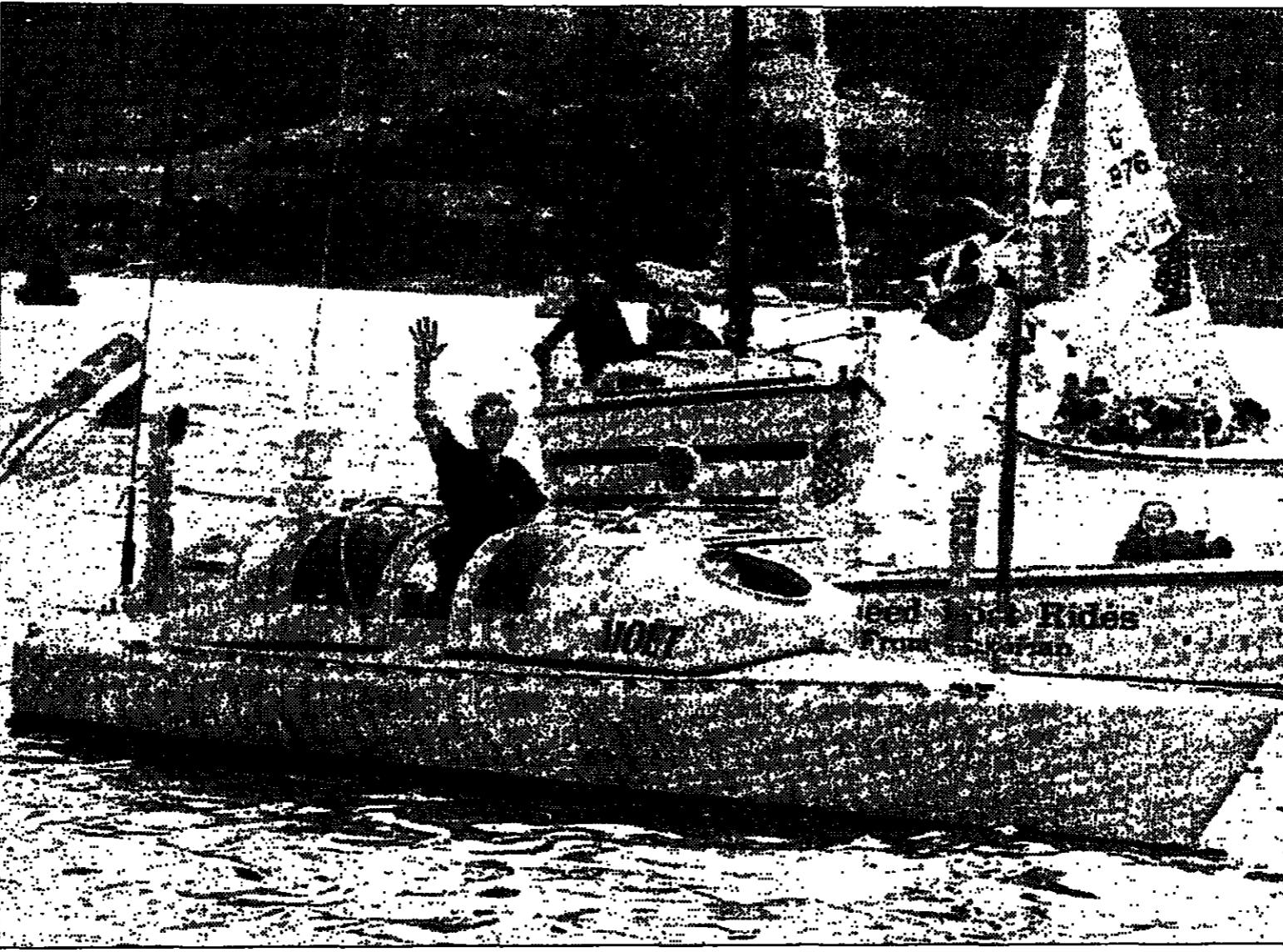
The Pentagon also said that the carrier USS *Saratoga* and three supporting warships entered the Adriatic yesterday, and shore leave has been cancelled. The Pentagon said the decision was made because of the situation in Yugoslavia, although it also made clear that all four could be used against Iraq. Altogether, the US has 41 ships in the Mediterranean, Red Sea and the Gulf.

The Pentagon would not comment yesterday on what kind of Iraqi targets would be attacked in the event of military action going ahead. In the past, options that have been floated have included: attacking Republican Guard units, bombing communications sites and suspected weapon-manufacturing plants, and bombing roads used to ferry supplies into Iraq in defiance of UN trade embargoes.

Pentagon sources said Richard Cheney, the Defence Secretary, and General Colin Powell, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, were still advising the president to use "prudence and caution" in his approach to Saddam. "They want to make certain that whatever action is taken, it is taken intelligently and unemotionally."

The Pentagon is understood to have warned the White House that air strikes against Iraq would not be "risk-free" and that a new, resurgent Iraqi air force, could pose a threat to the safety of American pilots.

Bush deadline, page 11



Sea legs: Dwight Collins arriving at Plymouth yesterday after taking 41 days to become the first person to pedal across the Atlantic. Mr Collins set off from St John's, Newfoundland, on June 14 in his 23ft boat, *Tango*, which has a pedal-driven two-bladed propeller.

He said that he had worked on "auto-pilot" for the first 35 days, adding: "It was hard, but it is tremendous feeling of accomplishment." Mr Collins set off from St John's, Newfoundland, on June 14 in his 23ft boat, *Tango*, which has a pedal-driven two-bladed propeller. He said that he had worked on "auto-pilot" for the first 35 days, adding: "It was hard, but it is tremendous feeling of accomplishment."

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was only in the last five days, when I knew I could make it, that I started thinking about what I had done. I was exhausted, but there was no question of giving up." To while away the hours, Mr Collins, who is a Connecticut property agent, worked out riddles. "I also listened to books on

tapes, and, half way across, I picked up the BBC World Service." The weather gave him his biggest challenge, with 20ft waves and 40 knot gales.

"In bad weather, I pedalled as hard as I could and coasted down the waves. That was so exhilarating," he said.

## Thousands lose as holiday firm folds

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

THE holiday plans of more than 50,000 people were in ruins last night after the collapse of the coach tour operator Land Travel with debts of more than £2 million.

At least 2,500 British tourists throughout Europe were told to pack their bags for immediate repatriation as police in Bath arrested the two main directors of the company, which specialised in cut-price holidays in Czechoslovakia, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Holland. The company is not a member of either the Association of British Travel Agents or the Bus and Coach Council, so no passengers were able to travel over the next few months will get their money back.

In Britain, thousands of people were left waiting on roadsides for coaches that failed to turn up. In Austria, guests were thrown out of

their hotel when expected payments did not arrive. Thousands of others were ordered to head back to the channel ports on the voluntary repatriation "specials" being organised by coach operators and ferry companies. British embassy officials have been told to be sympathetic, but not to hand out money until they had guarantees that it would be repaid once the travellers had returned. P&O and Sealink offered to bring back coachloads of tourists free.

Land Travel, which also traded as Friendly Holidays, relied on wafer-thin profit margins to attract large numbers of customers to its cut-priced tours. They did not own their own coaches and, unlike tour operators who lease aircraft for package trips, did not have a licence to operate. Using direct-sell techniques

their brochure became popular throughout Britain with pick up points in most major cities. Among their low cost offers were three nights at Christmas in Paris or Brussels for £159 or week long tours to the Austrian lakes, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland and the Black Forest all for under £150.

Just before detectives moved in to arrest him, Val Tjolle, the company chairman, said: "Operating in a very difficult market, we tried an ambitious price discounting strategy. Although customers were delighted with the service and outstanding value for money, unfortunately the dramatic increase in demand over-extended our resources."

The collapse comes the week after the government announced plans to protect package tourists next year using direct-sell techniques

and is likely to lead to pressure for those measures to be brought forward.

Under a new EC directive, which technically becomes law next January, any company which organises package tours, whether by air, land or sea, will have to deposit a bond with a recognised organisation such as the Association of British Travel Agents or the Bus and Coach Council. Details of the scheme have still to be worked out, however, and the new bond is unlikely to be effective before next July.

One ray of hope for disappointed holiday-makers comes from credit card companies that may offer refunds to people who spent more than £100. Barclaycard, last night advised customers to order claims packs from them by telephone. All Access and Visa cardholders should have similar cover.

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## Dying criminal says he killed Jimmy Hoffa

FROM BEN MACINTYRE  
IN NEW YORK

A FORMER convict claimed on American television yesterday that he and three other men were paid to murder Jimmy Hoffa, head of the Teamsters trucking union who disappeared in 1975 and whose body has never been recovered. He said that Hoffa had been drugged and thrown into Lake Michigan off Chicago.

The man, 70, who passed a lie-detector test before appearing on the programme *A Current Affair*, did not give his name but said he had come forward to "set the record straight" because he was dying of emphysema. Now the FBI says it wants to talk to the man to compare his story with information it already has on the kidnapping.

Hoffa, who had close links with organised crime, was last seen at a Detroit restaurant on July 30, 1975. Hoffs: rumours abound on his disappearance

His disappearance spawned almost as many theories as the assassination of President Kennedy. Previous rumours have suggested that he is buried in the end zone of a football stadium, or in the foundations of a Detroit building, or in the end zone of a football stadium. It is also suggested that he may be alive.

The latest claim is the only one to involve a credible witness, although little has been disclosed about him. The man, wearing a wide-brimmed hat, said that he was paid \$25,000 (£13,000) by "Midwestern crime family" for his part in murdering Hoffa. He claimed that he and two other men seized Hoffa as he was leaving the restaurant, drugged him and drove him in the back of a van to Chicago.

Hoffa was allegedly loaded on to a yacht that sailed to the middle of the lake, where his unconscious, weighted body was dumped, the man said. "When the bubbles stopped coming up, we upped the anchor, started the motor

and went back. He never begged for his life. He was tough." He said that Hoffa had offered his captors \$500,000 for his release, which they refused.

One of the most respected practitioners of the polygraph, Nat Laurendi, subjected the man to a lie test and concluded: "His answers were truthful. I don't want to believe him, but I have to believe the polygraph results."

The man claimed that he knew his accomplices only by their first names. The leader, whom he referred to as Sal, may have been Salvatore (Sally Bugs) Briguglio, a well-known gangster long suspected of involvement in Hoffa's death. Briguglio was killed in a street shoot-out in New York in 1978.

The self-confessed assassin says he approached the Fox television station in May. A journalist from the programme said: "He could be a master hoaxer or the world's greatest lie detector expert. Or he could be telling the truth." The offer of free Mortgage Payment Cover is subject to normal terms and conditions. To apply for a free quote on a Home mortgage, building and contents insurance made available through the Society, for a level term of 10 years, the premium advance 34.99% of the purchase price of the property, plus VAT, plus a handling fee of £10. The Premium is payable in monthly instalments over the term of the policy. Premiums will be made available to persons under the age of 18. Business, household and agricultural property are not covered. All mortgages are subject to a appraisal of an applicants financial standing and valuation of the property. Security over your property and in some cases over a suitable life policy will be required. For loans exceeding 75% an additional charge will be made. Mortgage loans are not available to persons under the age of 18. Business, household and agricultural property are not covered. All mortgages are subject to a appraisal of an applicants financial standing and valuation of the property. Security over your property and in some cases over a suitable life policy will be required. For loans exceeding 75% an additional charge will be made. Mortgage loans are not available to persons under the age of 18. Business, household and agricultural property are not covered. All mortgages are subject to a appraisal of an applicants financial standing and valuation of the property. Security over your property and in some cases over a suitable life policy will be required. For loans exceeding 75% an additional charge will be made. Mortgage loans are not available to persons under the age of 18. Business, household and agricultural property are not covered. All mortgages are subject to a appraisal of an applicants financial standing and valuation of the property. Security over your property and in some cases over a suitable life policy will be required. For loans exceeding 75% an additional charge will be made. Mortgage loans are not available to persons under the age of 18. Business, household and agricultural property are not covered. All mortgages are subject to a appraisal of an applicants financial standing and valuation of the property. Security over your property and in some cases over a suitable life policy will be required. For loans exceeding 75% an additional charge will be made. Mortgage loans are not available to persons under the age of 18

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## ITN prepares for more job losses

ITN is bracing itself for a possible budget squeeze next year that could see several millions of pounds knocked off its present £60 million-a-year contract to supply *News At Ten* and other news bulletins to ITV (Melinda Winslow writes).

Several ITV executives have demanded a reduction in the ITN budget in 1993 and beyond, which threatens further redundancies just as broadcasting unions voted to reject a 3.5 per cent final pay offer for the next 18 months.

ITN management has told union officials that the negotiations with ITV are proving "very difficult" and to expect further job cuts. Last summer, ITN announced 137 compulsory redundancies and a 12-month pay freeze.

Union leaders are again threatening industrial action.

One ITN executive has said the contract should be set at between £45 and £50 million, although the Independent Television Commission has already pegged ITN's supply contract at between £55 and £60 million a year at 1991 prices, which in 1993 would be closer to between £65 and £70 million. A senior ITN executive said yesterday he believed a clause in the 1990 Broadcasting Act requiring ITV to provide a high-quality news service would ensure that it received enough money to maintain standards on *News At Ten* and other news bulletins. "Of course ITV wants to squeeze us. They want the news as cheap as they can get it. But most companies realise that they need a high-quality news service," he said.

## Water leaks plugged

Water lost through leakage in East Anglia, the driest region in the country, has been cut in the past year by six million gallons a day — enough to supply a town larger than Northampton. Leakage of all supplies has been reduced from 21 per cent to 18 per cent, of which only two-thirds is from the mains while the rest is from householders' pipes, Anglian Water said. Leakage from Thames Water supplies to customers has been cut from 25 per cent to 17 per cent in the same period and, in Yorkshire over the past 10 years, from 30 per cent to just under 20 per cent.

## Scots police get £3m

Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, approved a £3 million package last night that will release 168 policemen to help fight the "alarming" increase in firearms offences north of the border. The move was announced after Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, Scottish home affairs minister, met chief constables to discuss ways of halting the growing menace, particularly in Strathclyde, Lothian, Central and Tayside police authority areas. Since 1990 firearms offences have increased by 27 per cent and armed robbery has risen by 79 per cent. There has been a 20 per cent increase in the number of crimes in which people are hurt by guns.

## Marchioness inquest

Relatives of some of the 51 people who died in the *Marchioness* pleasure boat disaster on the Thames are to seek a judicial review in an attempt to overturn yesterday's decision by Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster coroner, not to reopen the inquest, which was adjourned in April 1990 because of impending criminal proceedings against the captain of the other boat involved in the collision, in August 1989. Dr Knapman said: "I do not consider there are sufficient reasons to embark upon the wholly exceptional course of resuming the inquest." He said that fewer than half the relatives and other parties wanted a resumption.

## Father jailed for abuse

A doctor's receptionist discovered that her husband had sexually assaulted their two daughters when she saw a note clipped to the medical file of one. The note, in medical shorthand, indicated a history of sexual abuse. Luton Crown Court was told. The woman contacted police and yesterday the man, from Luton, was jailed for three years. The 43-year-old jobless carpenter admitted two specimen charges of indecent assault ten years ago, when the girls were 11 and 12. They remain emotionally scarred by what their father did, the court was told. After arrest, the man told police that he had been sexually abused as a child.

## Jail for suicide helper

Colin Lewis, a video store manager, was jailed for two years yesterday at Cardiff Crown Court after admitting to helping his best friend kill himself. He drove Stuart Jones, 28, to the 150ft-high Pontsticci Viaduct near Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, and watched him plunge to his death, the court was told. The young hospital porter's death was treated as suicide until Lewis, 32, walked into a police station four days later and told officers: "I killed him." Mr Jones had begged his friend to kill him several times during recurrent bouts of depression, the court was told.

## Illegal bird man fined

A man was fined £4,000 yesterday for the illegal possession of protected birds. Police and RSPB officials found a poisoned golden eagle in Richard Michalek's freezer and a collection of other stuffed birds in a bedroom cupboard during a raid in January. Michalek, 34, of Culbokie, Highland, admitted the offence. David Hinstone, the procurator fiscal, said non-projected birds were openly on display at Michalek's house, but the search found other species including two peregrine falcons and a tawny owl that had been newly stuffed and mounted.

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BRITISH AIRWAYS



Happy family: a tumultuous week in the political life of David Mellor ended with a demonstration of harmony yesterday as he and his wife took their two sons on a surprise visit to his in-laws (Philip Webster writes). The embattled

heritage secretary, Judith Mellor, 52, right, and Frederick, 8, visited the home of Edward and Joan Hall in Upper Beeding, West Sussex. The visit came after Mrs Mellor denied reports that her husband had told Mr and Mrs

Hall that they would never see their grandchildren again. The family, all smiling, posed for photographs. Mr Mellor said: "The children have been out of London. When they came back we decided we would come and see their

grandparents, have a chat and a bit of lunch. We have put all the last week behind us. Obviously Judith and I have got a lot of talking to do when we have a bit of free time." John Major reaffirmed yesterday that Mr Mellor would

not be resigning following reports of an alleged affair. "David Mellor is very well qualified to deal with that job. He is going to go on doing it," he said

Rumour mill, page 14

## Court workload forces long delays

## Taylor pleads the case for more judges

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government is conducting a survey into judges' productivity and working hours in the face of strong pressure from the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, for more High Court judges.

Lord Taylor has taken up the question of judicial manpower with Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, as the courts struggle with a "huge and growing workload" and increasing discontent among barristers and solicitors at delays in London. In particular Lord Taylor, like his predecessor Lord Lane, is concerned at the large and growing proportion of cases — more than 60 per cent last year — being heard by deputy judges.

Although some deputies are top silks in training for the bench, others are barristers who have not much work or are retired judges. At the Lord Mayor's dinner last week, Lord Taylor said that the waiting time in the Crown Office list for judicial review cases was 14 months and likely to reach 19 by January.

The delays in civil cases have prompted calls this week in a report from the London Commercial Bar Association for courts to be given powers to fine lawyers who fail to turn up or cancel hearings without "due notice". The report, which has gone to the Lord Chancellor's department, focuses on pre-trial delays in the Queen's bench division, where the average time between issue of a writ and start of a trial or disposal of action was 157 weeks last year, 12 weeks

more than in 1990.

In spite of measures to speed up pre-trial hearings, three-month delays are usual for appointments of 30 minutes or more before masters. With more than one appointment often needed, "such delays have a knock-on effect on the time taken for a case to reach trial, or to settle".

Delays in the division, which deals with a range of civil actions such as debt, negligence and breach of contract, have reached the point where a plaintiff seeking summary judgment in a claim where there is no defence has to wait much longer than if the case were set down for a full trial, the report says.

Such delays "mean that de-

fendants can keep plaintiffs out of their money for longer, and sometimes, in these recessionary times, until it is too late". The report says that they amount to "a charter for dilatory litigants".

One solicitor who regularly uses the High Court, Sam Sylvester, senior partner with Clintons, said: "The system is breaking down, but, unlike the NHS, not so many people use it so they don't know. If an order is not complied with, you issue a summons and it takes six months to get it heard. So it is now eight months to get an action struck out from the point when you ask for an order."

David Wyld, president of the London Litigation Solicitors' Association and a member of the law firm Macfar-

lanes, said: "Delays are intolerable. Solicitors are at the sharp end and we have to explain to clients why it is that their case can't be dealt with quickly." The main cause was the failure to increase the number of judges and masters to match the rise in litigation, he said. The use of deputies was disliked by barristers — who might not want to appear before a colleague — and clients, who felt that a judgment from a deputy did not have the same cachet.

The strains on the High Court are occurring in spite of passing work to the county court under the Courts and Legal Service Act 1990. Complaints are also rising about delays in the county court.

Leading article, page 15

## Iranians expelled in death-plot alert

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THREE Iranians were yesterday ordered to leave Britain within seven days after suspicion of an attempt to assassinate the author Salman Rushdie.

Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, approved the start of deportation proceedings for "reasons of national security" against two men working at the Iranian embassy and a student.

The men are being deported because the Foreign Office believes they were plotting to kill Mr Rushdie, but Whitehall officials refused to discuss details. It is understood that the three Iranians came close enough to Mr Rushdie to be noticed by his protection officers, but his security has been increased in the past four weeks.

Whitehall sources denied that the expulsions were retaliation for the exclusion by Iran this week of a British diplomat accused of spying.

Mr Sadeghi and Mr Soltani work in the embassy's passport and press sections.

able intelligence acts in the UK" and that Mr Soltani and Mr Vakhshteh are said to have been involved with a "foreign intelligence service in the UK".

Last night, the embassy rejected allegations that the three were involved in any plot to kill Mr Rushdie.

Mr Rushdie has been in hiding since 1989, when Ayatollah Khomeini issued a death sentence against him for his novel *The Satanic Verses*, said to insult Islam. The death threat was reaffirmed by the Iranian parliament this month.

Mr Rushdie, who has 24-hour armed protection, has made surprise appearances at literary gatherings, including the Hay-on-Wye book festival. It is not known in what circumstances the three men were noticed by his protection officers, but his security has been increased in the past four weeks.

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Mr Sadeghi and Mr Soltani work in the embassy's passport and press sections.

## Ministers reject bonus for schools

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA

EDUCATION ministers yesterday rejected the scheme of cash bonuses for academically successful schools proposed last week by the School Teachers Review Body (STRB) in favour of performance-related payments for individual teachers drawn from schools' existing budgets.

The STRB's briefing paper recommended that the schools be rewarded for overall performance using such indicators as examination results, truancy rates and levels of truancy attendance. Under its proposals, heads and governors of schools that improved would be given cash bonuses to distribute among teaching staff.

However, in a letter to Sir Graham Day, the review body chairman, John Patten, the education secretary, reaffirmed the government's commitment to "establishing a regular and direct link between an individual teacher's contribution to the education of pupils and his or her reward".

The STRB is due to submit a full report on teachers' pay to the prime minister in January. Mr Patten said that "resources for performance-related pay should be found by devoting to that purpose an increasing proportion of the pay bill ... rather than through higher increases than would otherwise be the case."

Baroness Blatch, an education minister, said in Liverpool yesterday that teachers' pay should reflect poor performance as well as high achievement.

Grant-maintained schools' budgets would be set on a national formula, modified by the government's standard spending assessment for their area. Bob Balchin, chairman of the Grant-Maintained Schools Trust, said: "We will be hoping for some kind of national formula to ensure that grant-maintained schools do not suffer from the sort of creative accounting that some local authorities have been employing to deprive our schools of funds."

Jack Straw, the outgoing Labour education spokesman, told the Council of Local Education Authorities conference in Liverpool: "A centrally directed system with unmet funding, councils and rigid formulae in place of local judgment will be inflex-

ible, unresponsive and unimaginative."

Such a system would mean that the government would be blamed for everything that went wrong because there would be no one else to blame. "When the Tories reap this whirlwind they will have only themselves to hold responsible," he said. He predicted that local education authorities would survive a fourth Conservative term because they performed a necessary function.

Baroness Blatch, education minister, told the conference: "Local education authorities can no longer be guaranteed the monopoly in providing education services. If they are to remain key players, authorities will need increasing control of schools and parents as consumers. Schools have the power not only to decide the standards they require across a whole range of service areas, but also to choose between different possible providers."

"The health of the education service does not and never has depended solely on LEAs: it depends on the health of the individual schools which pupils attend."

Asian and black Caribbean children fared worse than white pupils in the first national curriculum tests for seven-year-olds, according to a report published yesterday by the School Examinations and Assessment Council. Bradford, Newham in east London and Sandwell in the West Midlands, which had the worst results, all have a high proportion of ethnic minority pupils.

## Regional tier plan for state education is watered down

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to reorganise the state school system on regional lines will be held in reserve when the government publishes its education white paper on Tuesday.

The document, intended to provide a framework for state education over the next 25 years, will include proposals to transfer the management of the worst inner-city schools, limit the powers of governors and reorganise advisory bodies responsible for examinations and the national curriculum.

A new funding council is to oversee grant-maintained schools. John Patten, the education secretary, who has written sections of the 100-page document, expects most secondary schools to opt out of local authority control before the next election.

The original plan for a new system, drafted before the general election, were based on regional offices, each exercising detailed control over hundreds of schools. The Further Education Funding Council, which is to have nine regional centres of its own, was asked to find premises capable of expansion to accommodate a schools organisation.

But ministers feared that this would recreate the bureaucracy of local education authorities. They are expected to sanction only limited regional administration where there are large concentrations of grant-maintained schools. Opting out has barely touched some parts of England and Wales.

Grant-maintained schools' budgets would be set on a national formula, modified by the government's standard spending assessment for their area. Bob Balchin, chairman of the Grant-Maintained Schools Trust, said: "We will be hoping for some kind of

## Juror weeps with Taylors' mother and friends as verdict and sentence are handed down

## Sisters given life terms for killing Alison Shaughnessy

By BILL FROST

TWO young sisters were jailed for life yesterday for the murder of bank clerk Alison Shaughnessy. Michelle Taylor, 21, the lover of Mrs Shaughnessy's husband, was convicted with her sister Lisa, 19, of a frenzied attack on the victim, who was stabbed more than 50 times.

The women's friends, Mrs Shaughnessy's mother and a juror were all in tears when the verdicts were given. Mrs Shaughnessy's parents, Bob and Breda Blackmore, said: "No sentence will ever alone for Alison's death. It doesn't matter how many years they serve. They will be branded murderers for the rest of their lives."

The sisters, from Forest Hill, southeast London, had both denied killing Mrs Shaughnessy at her flat in June last year. Mr Justice Blofeld told them: "After a lengthy trial and an exhaustive investigation, you have been found guilty of this terrible crime of killing Alison Shaughnessy, whose life was all before her and whose life is no more."

The court had been told that Michelle Taylor had been having an affair with John Shaughnessy, 30, and that her "dream solution" was to remove her rival. Taylor wrote in a diary of her infatuation with Mr Shaughnessy and her hatred for his wife.

On June 3 last year, the sisters drove to the Shaughnessy's home in Battersea, south London, and attacked Mrs Shaughnessy with a knife as she arrived home from work. Before the body was discovered they concocted an alibi, persuading a friend that they had been at a private clinic where Michelle Taylor and Mr Shaughnessy worked. Michelle Taylor then returned to the scene of the murder with Mr Shaughnessy and feigned horror when she saw the corpse.

The court was told that she often gave Mr Shaughnessy a lift home after their Monday night routine of arranging flowers for the clinic. The pair often made love on Mondays when their affair was at its height. However, Mr Shaughnessy had ended the affair, telling Taylor that he wanted to spend more time



End of the road: John Shaughnessy, husband of the murder victim, leaves the Old Bailey yesterday. Michelle Taylor, centre top, and her sister Lisa, below, were both jailed for life for the murder of Alison Shaughnessy, shown right at her wedding reception. The jury heard that Mrs Shaughnessy was stabbed more than fifty times

## Two sides of the baby-faced girl convicted of murder

BESOTTED mistress driven by jealousy to kill her lover's wife — or guiltless girl whose heart was broken by her first infatuation?

This was the decision a jury of seven women and five men had to make on 21-year-old Michelle Taylor at the end of the three-week murder trial.

The same judgment was to determine the fate of Michelle's sister and co-accused, Lisa Taylor, 19.

Could the baby-faced Michelle, who gave chocolate teddy bears to her lover John Shaughnessy and said in the guilty verdicts: "These two wicked girls, aged 19 and 21, coldly, calculatingly, manipulated their way into a young wife's home and took her life by stabbing her 54 times."

Michael Holmes, the sisters' solicitor, said that there would be an appeal. "I have seen them in the cells and they are in tears and very upset. They cannot believe the verdict."

Michelle countered that

Seven men and five women had to untangle the evidence and determine whether Michelle Taylor was a killer. Pat Clarke and Peter Anderson write

her affair with Mr Shaughnessy had ended by the time of Alison's death and she no longer cared about losing him.

The jury heard frequent reference to a diary entry in October 1990: "My dream solution would be for Alison to disappear as if she never existed and then maybe I could give everything I want to the man I love."

Michelle's explanation was that she had hated Alison, but only briefly. "As time went on I realised it was not Alison I hated, it was John," she told the jury.

She depicted herself, like Alison, as a victim of the deceit of Mr Shaughnessy to whom she had surrendered her virginity only to have her love misused.

She described how she first slept with Mr Shaughnessy in March 1989 and made the entry: "SWJ" — "slept with John" — in her diary. But she was hurt, she said, when she discovered he was not only two-timing his wife but her as well and had taken out a third woman.

Even Mr Nutting conceded that Michelle had been "used and abused" by the "rather worthless" Mr Shaughnessy, who had repaid her love and loyalty with selfishness and unkindness.

According to the prosecution, Michelle and Lisa were already waiting. Unsuspecting Alison let them in and went up the stairs ahead of them. At the top, Michelle allegedly unleashed a frenzied and sustained attack using a 5in knife to inflict the 54 wounds counted on Alison's body by pathologist Rufus Crompton.

So distressing were the police photographs of her body that Mr Nutting decided not to ask the jury to look at them.

Two of the knife thrusts were fatal: one penetrated the lung and another plunged behind the breastbone, severing an artery and cutting the windpipe.

Clapham Junction and was last seen alive leaving the station at 5.30pm to walk to her home at Vardens Road, Battersea.

Time checks later carried out by police put the journey at 35 minutes. Alison should have reached her front door at about 5.37pm.

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## Psychiatrists' conference

## Sickness of jealousy growing fast

FROM ALISON ROBERTS IN DUBLIN

MORBID jealousy is becoming an increasingly common psychiatric disorder and is far more prevalent than is widely recognised. Members of the Royal College of Psychiatrists were told at their annual conference in Dublin yesterday.

Padma de Silva, a psychiatrist at the Maudsley hospital in London, said sexual jealousy in couples could reach obsessive proportions with a patient resorting to phone tapping, bugging rooms or offices or employing a private detective. In some cases marital jealousy manifested itself as a night-time interrogation into the partner's day and social contacts or as a set of rules which might forbid a spouse to leave the house unaccompanied or set a curfew.

A male partner might forbid his wife to work in an

## Depression still taboo, say doctors

By ALISON ROBERTS

DEPRESSION is still seen as a sign of weakness and people generally are very reluctant to visit a doctor about emotional problems, psychiatrists said yesterday. As a result, up to half the cases of serious depression in Britain go untreated.

Reporting on the progress of the Defeat Depression Campaign launched by the Royal College of Psychiatrists in January, Dr Richard Williams said patients needed to be freed of the stigma that the public attached to depressive illness.

A Mori poll of 2,000 people showed that 35 per cent had experienced depression either themselves or in other people, but 51 per cent thought that patients would be regarded as unbalanced or neurotic by their GP if they went for treatment.

The public education campaign aims to achieve the results of a similar experiment on a Swedish island, where hospitalisation of depressed patients fell by 70 per cent and suicide dropped by 50 per cent. "We need to de-stigmatise depression, and reverse the increasing prevalence of depression, which occurs as a result of social pressure," Dr Williams said.

The public, he said, did not trust GPs to treat depression and were extremely wary of drugs. There was a tendency to confuse all anti-depressant drugs with tranquillisers such as valium and there were many people who stopped taking them after four weeks rather than the prescribed four months for fear of addiction.

## Snakes spit their way into medical books

By JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE serpent has a place in the healing arts because of its association with Aesculapius, the Greek god of medicine. It was a symbol of health, continuity and eternity. Now Italian researchers have suggested it was valued for a more prosaic reason: its spit.

Luciana Angeletti and her colleagues in the philology and history department at the University of Cassino 70 miles from Rome have shown that snake spit contains epidermal growth factor, a product that encourages the growth of skin. The ancient rituals, they suggest, were designed to take advantage of this.

According to myth, patients were cured after entering a sacred cellar where they were visited, while asleep, by a god in serpentine form or a priest bearing a sacred serpent. Tablets found during the excavation of shrines to Aesculapius show the mouths of non-poisonous snakes being applied to wounds.

The text of one inscription found at Epidaurus in the nineteenth century attributes a critical therapeutic role to a serpent. It describes a man "suffering dreadfully from a malignant sore in his toe" being taken outside the temple and left to sleep on a seat. A serpent then emerged from a sacred cellar and "healed the toe with its tongue".



Dr Angeletti's team caught three specimens of *E. quadrilineata* (the four-lined snake), a large, common, non-poisonous variety, well known to ancient writers and a likely candidate for the role of sacred serpent. They extracted samples of saliva and found it contained epidermal growth factor.

The snakes' spit had the same immunological reactivity as concentrations of epidermal growth factor that are known to be effective in stimulating the growth of human skin.

Growth factor has been shown to assist healing of a variety of lesions in humans, including tendon injuries, ulcers, burns and wounds. Writing in *The Lancet*, the researchers say they cannot exclude the effect of psychological factors, drugs and sleep, but what seems to have given Greek physicians the edge was the spit.



Enduring legacy: George IV's state visit in 1822. The extravaganza still has repercussions today

## Scottish historian defends Sir Walter and the tartan

A SCOTTISH historian and writer yesterday defended the role of Sir Walter Scott in promoting the state visit to Scotland of George IV, an event described as a 14-day extravaganza which has been blamed for creating the country's image as a tartan, quasi-Celtic never-never land.

As the 170th anniversary of the famous visit approaches, Sir Walter has come in for severe criticism for stage-managing a flamboyant occasion that still has repercussions. The plump figure of King George was clad in flesh-coloured tights, plaid and kilt, and at a reception at Holyrood Palace he was invited to kiss 400 women in the space of an hour and a quarter. So spectacular were the displays that painters such as Turner and Wilkie, who recorded the visit, changed details to make the event look less ridiculous.

Although the visit was considered a great success, many sections of Scottish society were outraged by the absurdity, particularly as the event closely followed the Highland clearances of the time. We are seeing the tartan thing more clearly now and there is no question that tartan has a long and authentic pedigree."

Mr McOwan, writing in *The Scots Magazine*, has offered a lengthy defence of Sir Walter in which he says that the writer, despite a flawed social conscience, made Scotland important again.

Yesterday he said: "He saw the monarchy as a unifying force and did make some criticisms of the clearances, albeit not all that strong. Tartan as a weaving tradition goes back many centuries. Some would claim that the clan tartans are the same today as they were in 1745, others say that it is a Victorian invention, but the truth lies somewhere in between."

"Misguidedly romantic Sir Walter might have been, he might have gone to extremes, but time is proving him at least partly right. Whatever his excesses and misunderstandings, he kept Scottishness alive, even imperfectly, at a time when it was in decline and might have died entirely," said Mr McOwan.

Sir Walter Scott has been falsely blamed for devaluing Scotland's image, writes KERRY GILL

and the transportation and execution of radicals accused of sedition. Aside from his writing, Scott has since been ridiculed for introducing "tartanalia" and encouraging a caricature of Scotland now found on postcards and shortbread tins.

But Rennie McOwan, the historian, has reassessed Sir Walter's part in the visit and his subsequent direction that men should don Highland dress — kilts, plaids, brooches and the *sgian dhu*, the black knife worn in the right stocking — at all official events apart from military and naval occasions.

Mr McOwan said: "It is commonly said that tartan is a romantic invention, that Sir Walter was responsible for making it the national dress and was so carried away that he couldn't see the social evils

of the time. We are seeing the tartan thing more clearly now and there is no question that tartan has a long and authentic pedigree."

Mr McOwan, writing in *The Scots Magazine*, has offered a lengthy defence of Sir Walter in which he says that the writer, despite a flawed social conscience, made Scotland important again.

Yesterday he said: "He saw the monarchy as a unifying force and did make some criticisms of the clearances, albeit not all that strong. Tartan as a weaving tradition goes back many centuries. Some would claim that the clan tartans are the same today as they were in 1745, others say that it is a Victorian invention, but the truth lies somewhere in between."

"Misguidedly romantic Sir Walter might have been, he might have gone to extremes, but time is proving him at least partly right. Whatever his excesses and misunderstandings, he kept Scottishness alive, even imperfectly, at a time when it was in decline and might have died entirely," said Mr McOwan.

## £804,860 payout for dismissal

By KEVIN EASON  
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE former assistant managing director of Nissan UK yesterday won £804,860 damages in the High Court for wrongful dismissal. The company must also pay costs estimated at £300,000.

Stanislaw Cholaj of Brighton, East Sussex, was hired by Octav Botnar, Nissan UK's chairman, at a £125,000 salary to help run Britain's most successful independent chain of car dealerships. Mr Cholaj walked out in 1989, saying that he had been humiliated by Mr Botnar. Mr Cholaj said he was entitled to a ten-year year notice period and bonuses and company cars for himself and his wife.

Nissan UK said he took the job knowing Mr Botnar's management style. However, Judge Laurie said yesterday that Mr Botnar's style was irrelevant to the construction of Mr Cholaj's contract and he was justified in walking out and entitled to damages. Mr Botnar had appointed others to do his work and countermanded his decisions. He had also taken credit for successful decisions implemented by Mr Cholaj.

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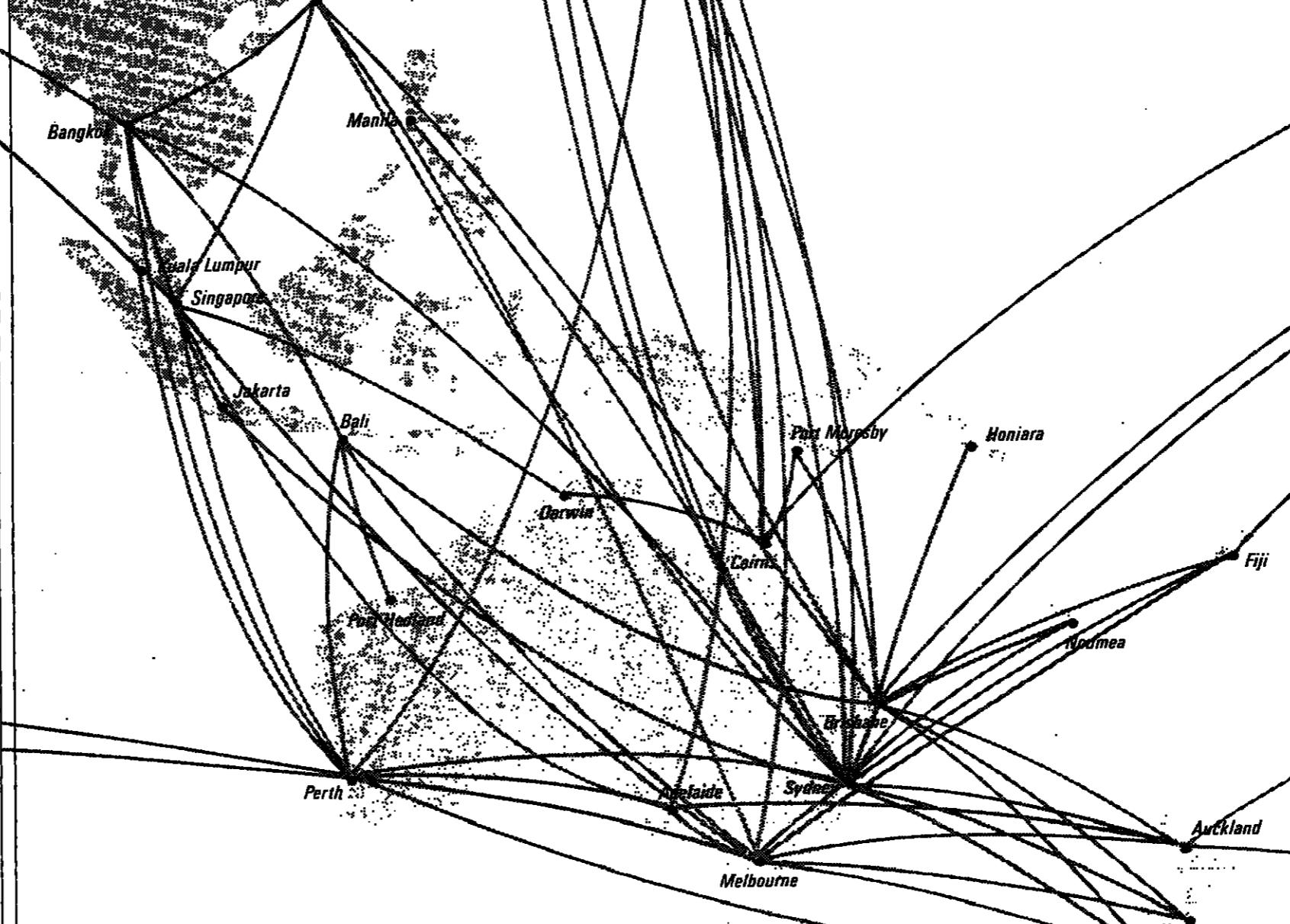
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WE GO FURTHER

## Parents lose battle to learn how son died in Falklands

BY A STAFF REPORTER

Arab Mo Hashim an Before Lord Justice Nour Woolf (Judgment Jr For the purp 4 of the Re Court, a ca pending originating The Court dismissed, an application by Stephan, a Texas, from Justice Hoff (553) of an order renewal of Arab Mone

LORD said that th an applicat set aside ar of a wri in 1990, an master on Order 11, for the issue service on jurisdiction itself.

Mr Step judge's rel aside proce further or: error of pri On Dec

THE parents of a young soldier killed in a boat accident in the Falkland Islands have no right to see a board of enquiry report to discover how their son died, the High Court ruled yesterday. Mr Justice Rose said there was no legal duty on the defence secretary to disclose the report.

He dismissed "with great regret", an application by Paul and Ingeborg Sancto, of Gillingham, Kent, challenging the defence secretary's refusal in May 1990 to let them see a copy of the report on the death of their son, Kirk, 19, a sapper who died in June 1982 when two boats collided in Stanley Harbour.

The judge ruled: "The parents have no right to know how their son died in so far as this can be ascertained from the report. That last sentence may well cause an astonished gasp from many members of the public and perhaps some ministers. But in my judgment it accurately reflects the state of the law."

"It follows that, with no enthusiasm at all, I am driven to the conclusion that, even in the unique and in some respects lamentable circumstances of this case, I cannot provide Mr and Mrs Sancto



EAST FALKLANDS

Port Stanley

Atlantic Ocean - 50 miles

with the relief which, I have little doubt, most members of the public would feel is their due. It is not for me but for Parliament, where this judgment began, to remedy the situation."

Later Mr Sancto, an engineer who has spent thousands of pounds fighting the case, said that he was astounded and would consider an appeal. "The obvious conclusion is that there is something being covered up," he said. "We have had seven years of worry and heartache and are no nearer the truth."

He called for a freedom of information act "because keeping information of this type secret is nonsense".

The judge said there were special circumstances suggesting that the report should have been disclosed. The decision of Tom King, then defence secretary, to not disclose it in May 1990 was outrageous, he said. He began his judgment by noting the prime minister's statement to the Commons in May pledging to sweep away "cover-ups of secrecy" which needlessly veil too much of government business".

The judge said there had been "conspicuous failures"

The report concluded that contributory causes "included impairment of the crew's judgment by drink and the excessive speed" of the boat.

The pathologist's report to the inquest disclosed no alcohol in the dead soldier's body. The judge said: "The evidence at the inquest showed no great speed, lack of control or recklessness at the relevant time."

Mr Sancto wrote to the ministry again after the inquest. The reply acknowledged that the earlier account "may unintentionally have been a little misleading", but it did not say whether it was still being maintained that his son's judgment had been impaired by drink.

The judge said the letter concluded with "the astonishing claim" that the army and the department had done all they could to meet "your entirely natural desire for information about the tragic circumstances of your son's death".

He said that sight of the enquiry report might or might not resolve matters and "the court's sympathy is entirely with Mr and Mrs Sancto in their wish to see it". However, the law could not bring that about.

Upholding her honour: Jani Allan outside the High Court with her lawyer, Peter Carter-Ruck. She claims the Channel 4 film *The Leader, His Driver and the Driver's Wife* portrayed her as "a lady of easy virtue".

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## QC in Channel 4 libel case tells of notebook puzzle

BY A STAFF REPORTER

MYSTERY surrounds the production in the Jani Allan libel case of her explicit personal notebook detailing sexual encounters that she insists were mere "fantasy".

The notebook, which appears to recount the South African journalist's affairs with a married Italian pilot and an Italian gun-smuggler called Mauro, took Miss Allan's lawyers by surprise when George Carman QC, for the defence, produced it at the start of his cross-examination.

Miss Allan, 41, of Wolsley Court, Hampton Court, Surrey, is suing Channel 4 over the film *The Leader, His Driver and the Driver's Wife*, which she says portrayed her as "a lady of easy virtue" who slept with the South African neo-Nazi leader Eugene Terre Blanche.

Channel 4 says it never suggested an affair and argues that such an allegation, although never made, would be justified because Miss Allan had been an affair with Mr Terre Blanche, a married man with a young daughter.

Miss Allan told Mr Justice Potts and the High Court jury yesterday that the notebook, which covers the years 1984-5, was "absolutely categorically not" written for public consumption.

She said it was born out of her traumatic state at the time. She did not give permission to anyone to give it to Channel 4 and had never been told how they got hold of it. She knew the notebook had been stolen from her but not by whom.

Mr Carman said the court should know the notebook arrived in a parcel, via a court usher, early on Tuesday afternoon, the second day of the hearing. It carried his name, was addressed to the courtroom, and was delivered by "one of those bikes which go around London". He said: "We don't know who [it was sent] by."

Mr Carman said the notebook proved that Miss Allan was a "liar and a hypocrite" when she said that she was a

woman whose personal morality would not countenance an affair with a married man.

Charles Gray QC, for Miss Allan, pointed out that the notebook contained nothing of relevance to Mr Terre Blanche or the question of whether Miss Allan had a relationship with him. The Terre Blanche allegations covered the period 1988-9, four years after the notebook was written.

Under cross-examination by Mr Carman, Miss Allan denied telling her former flatmate Linda Shaw that Mr Terre Blanche was "a great lay but a little heavy". She also denied that she was at Mr Terre Blanche's feet when he came round to her flat and "ply [him] with Chivas Regal whisky" — his favourite drink.

She denied that she would make a meal for Mr Terre Blanche was "a great lay but a little heavy". She also denied that she was at Mr Terre Blanche's feet when he came round to her flat and "ply [him] with Chivas Regal whisky" — his favourite drink.

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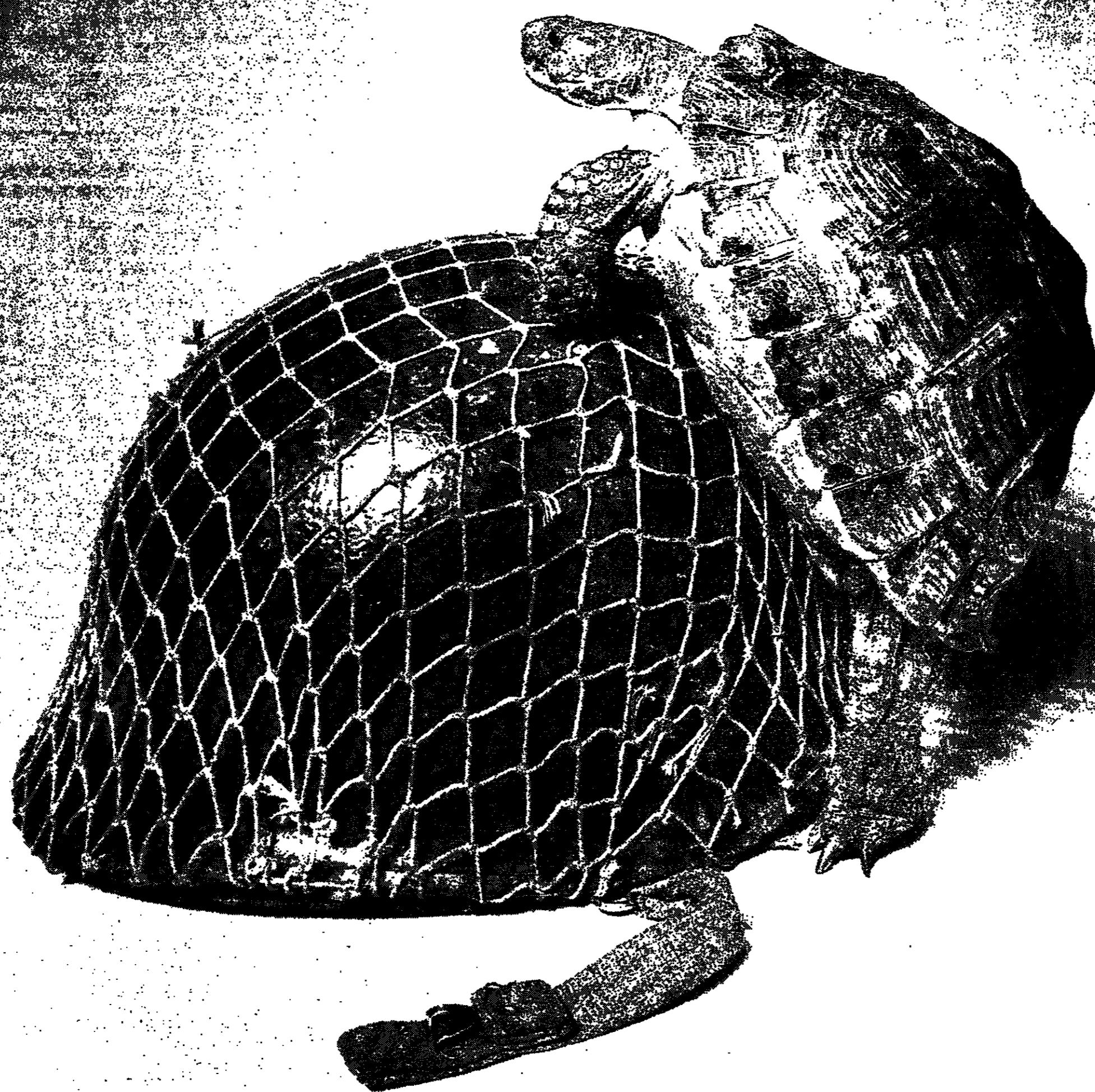
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## Leadership rival Gould shadows Mellor; Beckett becomes shadow Commons leader

## Smith chooses close allies for key posts

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith promoted David Blunkett, the only blind MP, to the key post of shadow health secretary and gave the five women in his top team important roles as he carried out a speedy reconstitution of the shadow cabinet yesterday.

The new Labour leader last night hailed his "new-look shadow cabinet" as one of full talent and ability and more than a match for the government.

Mr Blunkett, the former leader of Sheffield council, who was elected to the upper ranks for the first time on Thursday, takes over from Robin Cook in a job in which he will be pitted against Virginia Bottomley. He said last night that Labour should be prepared to challenge orthodoxy thinking on health both inside and outside the party.

In a reshuffle that sees all his closest supporters on the front bench, Mr Smith has given his deputy Margaret Beckett the joint responsibilities of shadow Commons leader and co-ordinator of the party's campaigns.

Marjorie Mowlam, another newcomer, gets the

dual jobs of shadowing William Waldegrave's citizen's charter department and speaking on women's rights; Ann Taylor is promoted to the high-profile role of shadow education secretary; Harriet Harman becomes shadow chief secretary to the Treasury; Mrs Beckett's old job; and Ann Clwyd becomes shadow Welsh secretary.

The most senior jobs went as expected: Gordon Brown takes Mr Smith's old job as shadow Chancellor; Tony Blair steps into Roy Hattersley's shoes as shadow home secretary; Robin Cook is pitted against Michael Heseltine as shadow trade and industry secretary; and Jack Cunningham takes over from Gerald Kaufman as shadow foreign secretary.

Perhaps the biggest surprise was the appointment of Tom Clarke, newly elected on Thursday, to the position of shadow Scottish secretary, where he replaces Donald Dewar and takes on the thorny issue of Scottish independence. Mr Dewar, a close ally of the Labour leader, would have been prepared to carry on but accepted Mr Smith's view that after nine



High profile: opposition leader John Smith has given Ann Taylor the job of shadow education secretary

is reflected in their jobs."

Frank Dobson, who finished fourth in the elections, gets the job of shadow employment secretary. Jack Straw moves from education to shadow Michael Howard on local government. Chris Smith, another of the five new

faces in the shadow team, takes on environmental protection. Michael Meacher, formerly at social security, is overseas development spokesman.

John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, who contested the deputy leadership

contest, was granted his wish to stay in the job and lead the opposition attack against British Rail privatisation.

The shadow defence secretary job, previously done outside the shadow cabinet by Martin O'Neill, moves inside and is taken by David Clark.

Formerly the agriculture spokesman. The Northern Ireland portfolio will continue to be held outside the shadow cabinet by Kevin McNamara.

Diary, page 14

Leading article, page 15

## Hospital blunder cost £20m

A HEALTH authority spent £43 million on a computer system that did not work and about half the money was wasted, it was disclosed yesterday.

Wessex Regional Health Authority, covering hospitals in Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire and Avon, is taking legal advice in an effort to recover the money from contractors. Ken Jarrold, the authority's manager, said yesterday: "There are no excuses. This is a very tragic story of mismanagement and a waste of millions of pounds of public money."

The ambitious plan in 1982 for a new system linking the hospitals put estimated costs at £26 million. When finally scrapped in 1990, the project had cost £43 million, which could finance 1,400 liver transplants or 16,000 hip operations.

The authority is putting some of the work to good use, but Mr Jarrold said at least £20 million of public money had been wasted. The district auditor's report on the matter will be passed to the police to see if there is any criminal case to answer.

## THE FULL LIST OF THE NEW SHADOW CABINET

	Age	Position
John Smith	52	Leader
Margaret Beckett	49	Leader of the House with responsibility for campaign co-ordination
Gordon Brown	41	Treasury and economic affairs
Tony Blair	39	Home affairs
Robin Cook	48	Trade and industry
Frank Dobson	55	Employment
John Prescott	54	Transport
Bryan Gould	53	National heritage
Harriet Harman	41	Chief Secretary to the Treasury
Marjorie Mowlam	42	Citizen's Charter and women
Chris Smith	41	Environmental protection
Ann Clwyd	55	Wales
Ann Taylor	45	Education
Jack Cunningham	52	Foreign and Commonwealth affairs
Michael Meacher	52	Development and co-operation
Donald Dewar	54	Social security
David Blunkett	45	Health
Jack Straw	45	Environment (local government)
Tom Clarke	51	Scotland
David Clark	52	Defence, disarmament and arms control

The following are non-elected members of the shadow cabinet:

Ron Davies 45 Food, agriculture and rural affairs

Kevin McNamara 57 Northern Ireland

Derek Foster\* 55 Chief whip

Doug Hoyle\* 62 Chairman parliamentary Labour party

\*Automatically members of the shadow cabinet.

## Eurocrat career is tempting Kinnock

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

EXCHANGING years of staring at John Smith's back from the Commons back benches for a new career in the European Commission with a six-figure salary is looking increasingly tempting to Neil Kinnock.

After this week with John Major and the commission president, Jacques Delors, friends of the former Labour leader believe that an announcement about a move to Brussels may be made within a few weeks.

Friends disclosed yesterday that Mr Kinnock is being swayed in favour of becoming one of Britain's two EC commissioners at the end of the year, not by the lifestyle, but by the chance to channel all his energy into becoming a key influence on the European Community's future.

They also agree that, if Mr Kinnock does succeed Bruce Millan, a former Labour minister, he would throw himself wholeheartedly into EC politics and would not, like some commissioners, keep half an

eye on a return to national politics.

In Brussels, Mr Kinnock would receive £108,000 a year tax-free. Although the appointment would be initially for a four-year term, Mr Kinnock would be likely to serve two terms at least.

There would be drawbacks for Mr Kinnock. He is only 50 and would be sorry to leave the Commons. He also hopes to stay on Labour's national executive committee.

He is one of those MPs who never resent constituency duties. Leaving Iswyn, and causing a by-election in the south Wales seat, would be a wrench for both Neil and Glenys Kinnock.

There would be benefits for John Smith in Mr Kinnock going to the EC. The media will scan Mr Kinnock's utterances for any whiff of criticism of his successor. Mr Kinnock shows no sign of emulating Sir Edward Heath or Baroness Thatcher, but there might be relief in the Smith camp at his departure.

## Processing of tax data may go private

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

THE Inland Revenue is to come under scrutiny by the government as part of its drive to improve efficiency and value for money. The Revenue's computer division, containing more than 35 million tax files, may be contracted out to private firms under the restructuring of the public sector supervised by William Waldegrave, the public service minister.

Five leading computer companies are assessing the possibility of one or more firms taking on the data processing work on taxpayers' files, which costs between £200 million and £250 million a year. The announcement, made in internal letters to staff, has brought trade union demands that "this dangerous move" be reversed.

If approved, the proposals could take the jobs of up to 2,800 staff at 16 computer centres out of the public sec-

tor, although it would take several years to contract out all the work.

Clive Brooke, general secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation, said that taking the work away from civil servants would endanger taxpayers' privacy. "Personal privacy is being put at risk by the government's obsession with market testing. They claim that tax confidentiality will be just as high as with a bank. Let us hope it does not turn out to be another BCCI," he said.

The Inland Revenue said that it would remain a criminal offence to divulge confidential information and that it would remain responsible for ensuring that confidentiality was preserved. "No decisions have been taken at this stage and no decisions will be taken unless it can be demonstrated that a high-quality service and the best value for money is provided."

## Ken turns his car into an InterCity



Snap... Ken with his pride and joy on a real InterCity zooms

TRAIN buff Ken White is so devoted to his hobby he drives around in a Railiant Robin painted to look like an InterCity Express.

And if it ever breaks down he gets behind the wheel of his second car — another Dad's Boy-style three-wheeler decked out like a freight engine.

Ken, 45, a train spotter and model engine collector for 17 years, said yesterday: "I decided if I had to drive a Reliant it might as well look like an InterCity Express."

And if it ever breaks down he gets behind the wheel of his second car — another Dad's Boy-style three-wheeler decked out like a freight engine.

Ken, 45, a train spotter and model engine collector for 17 years, said yesterday: "I decided if I had to drive a Reliant it might as well look like an InterCity Express."

"People really stare and it's never caused a few accidents," he said.

Ken's son, Granham Lince, painted his "freight train" Robin after trading motorbikes.

He is a

fan of

British Rail staff.

"I think I'm giving him a bit of a name, but just a bit."

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Hatton denies charges

Derek Hamon, 44, the former deputy leader of Liverpool City Council, pleaded not guilty yesterday to eight charges of conspiracy to defraud the council when he appeared before Stafford Crown Court.

Six other defendants are appearing with him all denied various charges of conspiracy to defraud the council. They included two former Labour councillors, Mr Hatton's tailor and three businessmen.

The case was adjourned to Liverpool Crown Court on October 14 for further legal discussions.

## Swap agreed

Russian students are to be invited to study at the Royal College of Defence Studies. The first student will join the 1993 course, and a British student will attend the Military Academy of the General Staff of the Russian Federation.

## Player jailed

Third division soccer striker Mark Loram, 24, was jailed for two months at Torquay, Devon, yesterday after he admitted joyriding. The chairman of Torquay United, Mike Bateson, said Loram, a talented player, no longer had a career at the club.

## Eel hooks boy

Scot Robson, 10, of Hulsea, Portsmouth, was rescued by helicopter after being dragged out to mudflats by an eel he had hooked on his fishing line. He was unable to move in the slippery mud. A passer-by saw him and alerted the coastguards.

## School closes

A centuries-old Cornish primary school closed for the last time yesterday after the four staff members lost their only pupil. Tim Hooper, 10, who was given individual tuition at Bolventor school on Bodmin Moor, starts at a senior school next term.

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# Woman loses 'right to die' court appeal

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

DOCTORS can continue to give blood to a seriously ill woman who is said to have objected to transfusions to please her mother, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

The court said the doctors can legally treat the woman even though she had signed a refusal to accept blood transfusions after being influenced by her mother, a Jehovah's Witness.

Lord Donaldson of Lymington, Master of the Rolls, said: "Treatment in accordance with whatever doctors think is in the best interests of the patient is authorised." The court will give its reasons for the decision next week in a judgment that could set guidelines for the approach to be adopted by the medical profession when faced with objections by patients to treatment.

After the hearing one lawyer in the case said it raised "very important questions about the attitudes of doctors

had been forced by her mother to follow the religion but rebelled and was not a practising Jehovah's Witness.

Last week in the High Court, Mr Justice Ward said the woman, from Stoke-on-Trent, could receive life-saving treatment including blood and plasma transfusions.

The decision, won by David Venables, the Official Solicitor, acting on behalf of the unconscious woman.

James Munby QC, for the Official Solicitor, said the right of self-determination extended even to refusal of treatment necessary to preserve life. That concept "embodies the patient to act in a way which others, even society at large, might think to be misguided, irrational, absurd or even worse".

The appeal against Mr Justice Ward's decision was opposed by T's father, who is divorced from her mother and is not a Jehovah's Witness. It was alleged that, while being visited by her mother in hospital after the car accident, T told a nurse "out of the blue" that she did not want blood transfusions.

Mr Venables said that he would not decide until hearing the court's full reasons whether to seek to appeal to the House of Lords. "The judges have concluded that Mr Justice Ward, in overriding what seemed to be the woman's wishes, in the particular circumstances of this case, was correct," he said.

"But, equally, if you look at his judgment it does not knock down the principle that people have the right to refuse treatment. It was only because of the peculiar circumstances of this case that the judge made the decision he did."

The court had been told that the woman, aged 20 and referred to as T, was in a critical but stable condition after a car crash that resulted in her baby being stillborn. T

Clifford Longley, page 14



Donaldson: in the patient's best interests

in respect of patients who give either clear instructions as to the refusal of treatment or, as in this case, instructions about which there is considerable doubt".

The court had been told that the woman, aged 20 and referred to as T, was in a critical but stable condition after a car crash that resulted in her baby being stillborn. T

## Curios put 'rainforests of the sea at risk'

JACK JACKSON

Aquariums and the gift trade may be threatening the survival of coral reefs, Michael McCarthy writes

THE seizure of what is believed to be the biggest haul of illegally exported coral in the world has prompted fears that the British aquarium and marine curio trades may be helping the destruction of coral reefs.

More than 80 tonnes of coral from the Philippines, thought to be worth more than £500,000, was seized by customs officers in two raids last week at docks in Tilbury and Felixstowe. The consignment purported to be coral from stocks collected before 1986, on which an amnesty had been granted, but some were found to be fresh.

Both consignments were destined for Tricor, an aquarium wholesale company in Boston, Lincolnshire, from which customs officers seized 17 tonnes of Philippine coral last year after allegations of improper importation.

Alan Teesdale, owner of Tricor, who denies any illegality, said yesterday that he thought the harvesting of coral to supply Western aquariums and the curio trade could be done sustainably without long-term damage to reefs.

His view is disputed by the Marine Conservation Society, which believes that coral gathering represents a real threat to reefs, already at risk from pollution, coastal development and violent fishing methods such as dynamiting.

The society is trying to focus public attention on the trade in the same way that ivory was scrutinised three years ago. This week it sent a booklet to 260 dealers in shells, corals and sponges at resorts all over Britain, which are gearing up for their summer trade, asking them to think again about coral sales.

"Coral reefs are often thought of as the rainforests of the sea because of their richness in species, but all around the world



Endangered species: the Sanganeb reef off Sudan and, below, the other main coral sites. About 60 per cent are found in the Indian Ocean and about 14 per cent in both the Caribbean and the south Pacific

they seem to be declining in health," Bob Earl, the society's head of conservation, said. "The supplying of aquaria and the curio trade is now a direct threat. We think people should think again about the sale of coral. We also think the government should monitor coral imports much more closely."

Government figures on coral imports are confused, making any accurate picture of trends impossible. Imports are recorded either as individual corals, unweighed, or as amounts by weight. The latest available figures are for 1989, and they show that Britain imported 15,305 individual pieces of various sizes.

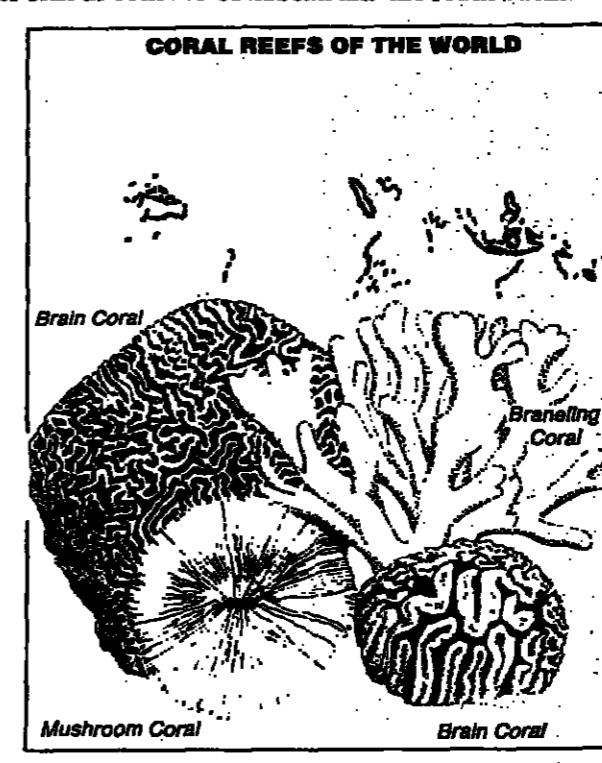
Mr Teesdale, who said he was one of several importers, added that the 80 tonnes seized last week would have represented about four years' supply for him. He was unwilling to place an exact value on the

coral, but said it was worth between £5,000 and £10,000 per tonne.

About 30 per cent of it was destined for the curio trade as small ornamental pieces, he said. The rest was for tropical aquariums, both commercial and private.

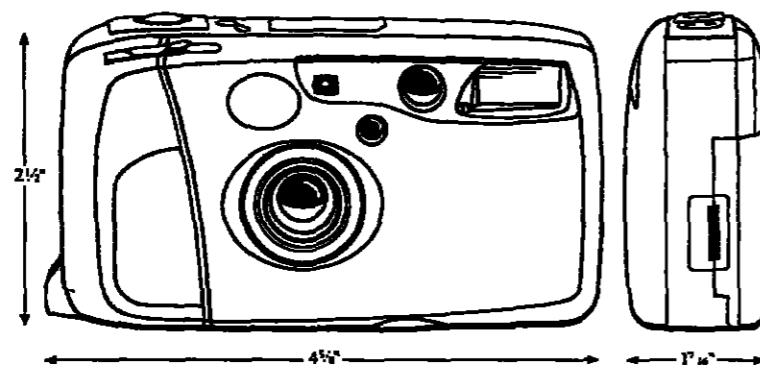
"I've been out to the Philippines several times and, if the fishermen on the islands are allowed to harvest the coral and let it grow back, they can harvest just as much as they like without any environmental effect. It can be done sustainably. There are other places where they just dynamite the coral out, and this is the problem."

Mr Teesdale said he had believed the shipments seized last week were being properly exported. He denied that the shipment seized last year had been imported improperly. Customs investigations are continuing in both cases.



KYOCERA

## INTRODUCING THE T4: THE COMPACT DESIGNED FOR PEOPLE WITH SMALL POCKETS AND GREAT EXPECTATIONS.



Weddings, holidays, at home or abroad, the Yashica T4 really is the most perfect of travelling companions.

It'll go anywhere yet never get in the way.

Hardly surprising when you consider its size. A mere 4 1/4" x 2 1/4" x 1 1/4".

Small and light enough to slip into your pocket as easily as a bar of chocolate.

Just 6.6 ounces (or little more than that small bar of chocolate) is all the T4 weighs.

Which is really quite amazing when you pause to consider just how many features have been packed into this pocket compact.

With the emphasis very much on quality. Not just quantity.

Starting with the Carl Zeiss Tessar T\* 35mm f3.5 lens.

Which as any pro will tell you, is 'the business'. Especially when it's matched to a shutter which can fire at up to 1/700 sec.

Originally patented in 1903 by Carl Zeiss

of Germany, the overall lens construction has repeatedly set the highest standards.

Even with the advance of optical technology the Tessar T\* lens has managed to stay well ahead of the field (a fact recognised by space agency NASA, who have used Carl Zeiss lenses in every manned space probe since 1962).

Nicknamed 'Eagle Eye' after the Bald Eagle which nature has endowed with pin sharp vision, the Tessar T\* captures every detail, every subtlety of colour.

With this camera and this lens, nothing's beyond you.

Now you can take close-ups, portraits, groups or landscapes. All of them pin sharp.

Automatically.

All thanks to the T4's multi-beam autofocus system.

A system clever enough to let you get so close you can photograph an A4 document. (Should you ever want to take your work home with you, that is.)

And you don't have to worry about shooting conditions.

At the push of a button, you can choose exactly the right shooting mode for the occasion.

For example, the T4's Red Eye Reduction

Mode. This will greatly reduce the chance of getting 'red eye' in low light by firing off a pre-flash just before the main flash.

If on the other hand you want to take a night scene or create a certain mood using whatever light is available, you'll want the T4's 'night scene no flash mode' which lets you shoot at a slower speed.

But if you want to leave it all up to the T4 you can.

The flash is automatic, not only when the lights are low, but if the T4 believes the subject is too strongly back-lit. It's quite capable of compensating for it all by itself.

Automatically.

There's even a Background Brightness Control which automatically cuts in to enhance backgrounds, if it judges the lighting situations to be a bit tricky.

But if you want to override the automatic flash so that it fires regardless of the overall lighting conditions, you can.

So you can light your subject and retain background detail. Or use it to 'fill-in' any harsh shadows cast by an overhead sun.

You can even put yourself in the picture simply by using the T4's 10 second self-timer.

It really does cover just about all shooting conditions or moods.

And so that you don't forget what you're doing, a central LCD display panel tells you exactly what mode you're in.

As you might well expect from a camera this advanced it offers all the usual features that more ordinary cameras offer.

Like automatic film advance to Frame 1, automatic wind-on, and automatic rewind.

Everything's designed so that you can concentrate on what really matters: taking great photographs.

And all this from a compact that doesn't just fit your pocket, it won't burn a hole in it either.

£120 is the price of the Yashica T4 with its Carl Zeiss lens.

Which just goes to prove that investing in a serious camera doesn't always mean parting with serious money.

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**THE NEW YASHICA T4 POCKET COMPACT WITH THE CARL ZEISS LENS.**

Kyocera Yashica (UK) Ltd, 4 Beresford Court, Beresford Road, Reading RG2 0QX. Tel: 0734 511919.

# Bush prepares to set Iraq deadline after UN team withdraws

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

TENSION in the Middle East rose sharply last night as a United Nations team was pulled out of Baghdad after failing to enter the agriculture ministry and a report from Washington that an ultimatum setting a deadline for compliance with the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire was imminent.

The UN team of five inspectors and one other official left for Bahrain after ending their vigil outside the ministry on Wednesday because they were at risk from increasingly irate demonstrators. Mark Silvers, the team leader, said they were leaving on orders from Rolf Ekeus, head of the special UN mission charged with dismantling President Saddam Hussein's machine.

Mr Ekeus was in New York continuing diplomatic efforts to resolve the confrontation which has come closer than the many seen since the end of the Gulf war to reopening hostilities. Leading Arab officials are convinced that Saddam is gambling that any attack would increase his standing in the Arab world.

Before leaving the region yesterday, James Baker, the American Secretary of State, added to the impression of a fast-approaching military showdown by saying in Saudi Arabia: "The US is prepared to do whatever is necessary to enforce security council resolutions." He added firmly that

President Bush "made clear he has not ruled out military action as an option".

Western and Arab regional security experts were sceptical that a new wave of air or missile attacks would succeed in toppling Saddam from power or even in securing a rapid compromise on the agriculture ministry question.

There was hope that a last-minute compromise could still be found.

The confrontation came just over a week before the emotional second anniversary of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Western officials said that it was occurring at a time when despite reported coup attempts, Saddam and his intelligence apparatus appeared securely in control of the Sunni Muslim heartland in and around Baghdad.

The officials noted that many of the privileged members of the elite able to gain access to Saddam knew their own future depended on his remaining in power and were unlikely to become involved in plots to overthrow him. The Israeli intelligence service, Mossad, is known to have failed to set up a team inside Iraq to assassinate the president.

Arab diplomats said that Mr Baker had failed to secure full backing from America's former Arab coalition partners for any renewed attacks on Iraq. The diplomat said that

there was a ground swell of feeling against military action in the Arab world where the agriculture ministry stand-off had been depicted as a pesty issue.

An American source close to Mr Baker said that it had been hoped that planes from the Saudi and possibly the Egyptian air force would join in any new bombing missions, but that did not now seem likely.

Behind the scenes, intense efforts to find a diplomatic solution were continuing with Rahim Al-Kital, Iraq's ambassador to the UN office in Vienna, claiming that Iraqi proposals to open the ministry to inspectors from neutral countries, such as Austria and Switzerland, would be acceptable to the UN. "There is some reason to be optimistic about this point," he said.

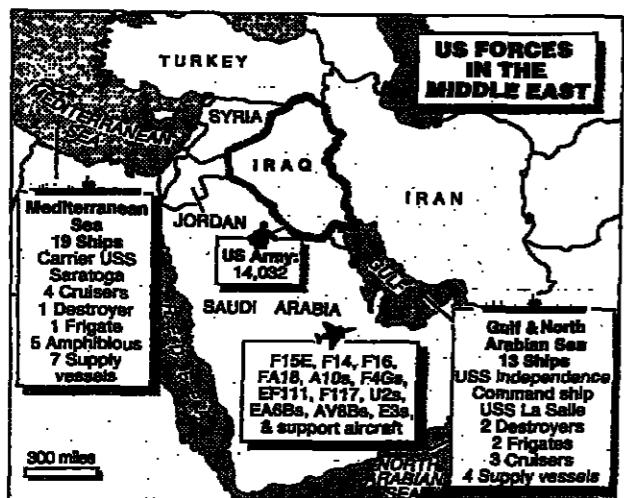
United Nations envoys in New York said that Iraq had originally suggested a team from non-aligned nations on the council and not under the jurisdiction of the special inspection commission, a proposal that was flatly rejected. However, the envoys said that one compromise might include dispatching inspectors from such nations as Austria and Sweden, but still firmly under the command of the special commission.

Iraq denies that the building houses military secrets, and even Western officials admit that those that were there are likely to have been destroyed during the deadlock since the UN weapons inspectors first tried to enter it on July 5. The officials insist, however, that the question has become a vital matter of principle on which the UN's

standing depends.

Among moderate Arab governments, there are fears that renewed military action will be exploited by Islamic fundamentalists to whip up support and to redouble their opposition to those who fought in the coalition against Iraq in 1991, notably Egypt, which is suffering its worst Islamic-related violence for over a decade.

Cabinet summoned, page 1



## Baker hopes high at end of mission

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

THE Middle East peace shuttle of James Baker, the American Secretary of State, ended yesterday with hopes high that direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbours will resume by mid-September at the latest.

Although Arab leaders insisted that the new peace proposals put forward by Mr Yitzhak Rabin did not go far enough, there was a feeling behind the scenes that the atmosphere for negotiation has improved with the advent of a new Israeli government.

Mr Baker said in Saudi Arabia: "We have seen [Saudi] statements welcoming this change... it presents new opportunities for moving the peace process." Before he left his sixth port of call on his latest mission, he outlined the progress to Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Saudi foreign minister. The prince said: "We are encouraged with the reports that the Secretary of State has brought with him and we will support the peace process with new hopes now."

## Escobar sets out his terms for surrender

FROM REUTER IN BOGOTÁ

THE fugitive drug lord Pablo Escobar has told the Colombian government he is ready to return to jail on certain conditions, but the government said in a statement yesterday that his surrender must be unconditional.

The official statement, read on Colombian radio, said Escobar's lawyers had told the government of the Medellin cartel's intention to surrender immediately to Colombian authorities under a series of conditions.

Escobar escaped from jail on Wednesday after serving 13 months following his sentence. The search continued for him yesterday. Escobar's lawyers said the government must respect the original conditions on which he surrendered, that he must be returned to his original prison, and that civilian guards remain in charge of prison security.

But the government said it rejected Escobar's conditions. "For the national government, the only proper thing is the unconditional surrender of the terms under which he surrendered 13 months ago."



Hand signal: Rahim al-Kital, an Iraqi official, claiming yesterday that

Baghdad would allow neutral countries to inspect its agriculture ministry

## Trial puts CIA role in Contra arms sales under spotlight

THE CIA's role in the Iran-Contra affair came under the spotlight yesterday when a court in Washington was told that the agency had in 1986 tried to conceal from Congress details of the Reagan administration's secret and illegal military supply network to the Nicaraguan Contra rebels.

On the first day of the trial of Craig George, the CIA's former deputy director of operations, a special prosecutor alleged that the CIA had engaged in a huge cover-up and had lied to a congressional committee about its knowledge of the secret arms deals with the rebels.

Mr George, who is the highest-ranking CIA official to be prosecuted in connection with the Iran-Contra affair, is facing nine charges of lying and obstructing congressional and grand jury inquiries.

His trial is likely to prove highly embarrassing for the Bush administration and is bound to renew Democrat calls for Mr Bush to reveal all that he knew about the Iran-Contra affair during his time as vice-president in the Reagan administration.

Craig Gillen, the Iran-Contra prosecutor, told the jury that Mr George had full details about the secret arms supply network as he had been inundated with cables from CIA outposts informing him that Oliver North, then a White House aide, was running the Contra supply effort.

Mr Gillen alleged that Mr George had discussed with William Casey, the then CIA director, whether to reveal to Congress what they knew about Mr North's activities. They decided not to, according to the prosecutor.

The jury was told that another CIA operative, Alan Fiers, the chief prosecution witness, would tell them during the trial that Mr George had lied to Congress and hid Mr North's network from congressional investigators.

Mr George's lawyer, Rich-

ard Hibey, said his client was the target of political prosecution. He accused Mr Fiers of engaging in a cover-up on his own, without consulting his boss, Mr George. Mr Hibey said Mr Fiers "wove the web of deception" and intended to deceive Congress even before he met with Mr George. Mr Gillen, however, said Fiers was just following orders.

When he testifies at the trial, Mr Fiers "will tell you" that he hid North's network from Congress, Mr Gillen told the jury. Congress began asking questions about one of the operatives in North's network, Cuban-born Felix Rodriguez, a retired CIA employee who was working under the alias Max Gomez. Mr George ordered Mr Fiers to say they were still trying to determine Gomez's real identity, when in fact the agency already knew. Gillen told the jury in an opening statement that lasted more than an hour.

One of the first witnesses to

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Pujol: seizing the chance to advertise Catalonia

IT TOOK Barcelona more than a century to build even part of Gaudí's Sagrada Família cathedral but just six years to prepare the stage for the greatest show on Earth, the 25th Olympic Games that will be formally opened tonight by King Juan Carlos.

But what tonight's estimated worldwide television audience of 3.5 billion people will not see are the extraordinary security precautions, the political bickering, and the enormous costs involved in playing host to 15,000 athletes and officials from nearly 170 countries. It is supposed to be the most sophisticated security operation ever mounted.

The 1972 Munich Olympics, in which 11 athletes were murdered, are fresh in security officials' minds. Spain has suffered its share of violence

The glittering start of the Olympic Games today puts a £210m Spanish policing operation to the test, writes Edward Owen from Barcelona

from Basque and Catalan secessionists, without having to contemplate the extension of the Croat-Serb or Arab-Israel conflict to Spanish soil.

Strategically located next to the Olympic Village is the Games security centre which looks more like a space centre's mission control. Hilario Gareno, the spokesman for the Barcelona civil governor, says the security operation has cost \$400 million (£210 million). From the headquarters, officers command a security force of 45,000, which in-

cludes three different police forces, Civil Guards, servicemen and 3,400 security guards hired by the Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee.

Seated at a huge U-shaped console, the controllers face a wall of screens showing everything from satellite pictures of the city to the route of VIPs as they travel to and from events. They have access to images from 600 television cameras, some on an airship, others on helicopters, as well as on board four mini-submarines and six

patrol boats. "If there's any emergency, we can see what's happening and control the situation," said Senior Gareno.

"We will know exactly where the bomb squad is, where the VIPs are, where the plainclothes agents are. We have direct access to firemen and hospitals and can immediately co-ordinate evacuation procedures. These are the first Games in which everyone is concentrated in the sea. There will be 15 transatlantic liners in the port, the Olympic sailing port and village are near by and we have to patrol the sea in a 12-mile radius," he added.

He said that international collaboration on security had been extensive and that MI5, MI6 and Scotland Yard had been very impressed when visiting the centre. Senior

Gareno noted that the authorities viewed the nationalist threat to the "symbolic brotherhood" of the Games as "a nuisance and not a security danger".

The balconies of many buildings in Barcelona are festooned with the red and yellow Catalan flags and the city's own coat of arms. Catalan nationalists have taken to wearing T-shirts with the slogan "Freedom for Catalonia". Significantly, the only place where there are no Catalan flags is the Spanish Village, an amalgam of Spanish regional architecture not far from the Montjuic stadium on the hill that rises between part of the city and the sea.

Felipe González, the Spanish prime minister, is said to be furious at the way in which Jordi Pujol, the Catalan presi-

dent has ignored the central government's massive contribution to the Olympics and has been encouraging the nationalists. Señor Pujol has been advertising Catalonia around the world as "the country" that got the Games.

The Catalan language, flag and anthem will be used during the Games and there is no doubt that the Catalans' natural flair for business will pay huge dividends at the expense of landlocked Madrid, which has paid the lion's share of the bill.

Yesterday, officials were determined that local nationalist fervour, which has reached new heights on the eve of the Games, would not spoil the event.

Diary, page 14  
Leading article, page 15  
Games' survival, page 56  
Saturday Review, page 4

## Rome extends powers to fight Mafia as bomb victim is buried

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

THOUSANDS of Sicilians attended an emotional but dignified funeral for Paolo Borsellino, the anti-Mafia judge, yesterday as the government won a confidence vote on a package of tough measures against organised crime.

The composite of the mourners at the parish church of Santa Louis di Marillac in Palermo contrasted sharply with violent protests that erupted against the national police chief and government figures on Tuesday during a state funeral held for the five bodyguards of the magistrate who were also killed in a car bomb attack in the Sicilian capital on Sunday.

Investigators said last night they had arrested a private security guard working in the street where the bomb went off on charges of aiding and abetting the attack. Police in Palermo, the Mafia's Sicilian stronghold, made the arrest.

Security was tight outside the church where the funeral was held, with police marksmen posted on surrounding rooftops. In his homily, the

parish priest, Father Giuseppe Bucato, said: "We all have a sacred duty to continue this struggle because Borsellino died for all of us. Let us collaborate with the judiciary, cutting out any link with private interests, to show ourselves and the world that Borsellino lives on."

The family of the judge had refused to allow his coffin to be taken to the state funeral held in Palermo cathedral, implicitly accusing the state of doing too little to protect him. However, his widow Agnese, his son Manfredi, and his two daughters, Lucia and Flaminia, eventually invited President Scalfaro together with Claudio Martelli, the justice minister, and Vincenzo Parisi, the national police commander, to the funeral.

Signor Parisi was called a buffoon by protesters as he followed the hearse. The congregation applauded as the leader of the new anti-Mafia Rete (Network) party arrived. Police said that the Sicilian Mafia was apparently planning to murder Antonio Di

Pietro, a magistrate investigating a corruption scandal in Milan. The report was based on a tip-off from a gangster turned informer and was received three days before the assassination of Signor Borsellino. The informer was quoted as saying that the judge's investigation had threatened the money laundering activities of Salvatore Riina, the presumed head of the Cosa Nostra who has been on the run since 1969.

The Milan scandal, which first blew up in February, has led to the arrest of more than 60 businessmen and local politicians and dented the image of Giuliano Amato's Socialist party. The investigation focuses on a network of kickbacks allegedly paid in return for public contracts.

Eight of 20 magistrates involved in investigations of the Mafia in Palermo confirmed yesterday that they were resigning in protest at their lack of protection after the murder of Signor Borsellino, and of Judge Giovanni Falcone in May.

In the upper house of parliament, the Senate, the government comfortably won a confidence vote approving an anti-Mafia decree that gives police and magistrates wider powers against organised crime.

Once the package is approved by the lower house, police will be allowed to make block-by-block house searches. Phonetapping will be more widespread, and police efforts to infiltrate organised crime will be stepped up. The use of undercover "sting" operations and wiretapping of suspects will be made easier.

The sweeping measure gives more protection to police informants and repentant mobsters, who are vital to cracking the Mafia's still-solid code of silence. A national "super-prosecutor" will direct the country's crackdown on the Mafia and related crime gangs.

The vote was 163 to 106.

Approved by the Chamber of Deputies is expected next week, and the government says that it will implement the measures as quickly as possible.

• Milan: A chief executive of a Fiat carmaker subsidiary was arrested last night in the Milan enquiry. Police officials said Giancarlo Cozza, managing director of Fiat's rolling stock unit, was arrested on corruption charges. Luigi Caprotti, 67, president of two Iveco bus dealerships, has also been held.

A Fiat spokesman in Turin said that Signor Cozza has been employed by the Fiat group since 1975. Stockbrokers said that the announcement of yesterday's arrests contributed to the weakness of Fiat's shares. (Reuters)

"Ethnic cleansing", page 1

## UN armoured cars try to rescue convoy

BY ADAM LEBOV IN SARAJEVO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AN ARMoured United Nations relief column was yesterday sent to rescue a UN aid convoy trapped in mine fields six miles outside the sieged town of Gorazde.

Dispatched on Thursday, the aid convoy was carrying 15 tonnes of food and medicine as well as representatives from America and the World Health Organisation. One person was slightly injured when the convoy of two armoured vehicles and two armoured trucks ran into a mine field in Serb-controlled territory. Now the vehicles are unable to go forward or back and the UN is considering rescuing the trapped personnel by helicopter. An aid lorry and a French armoured personnel carrier were damaged by mines. Local Serbian commanders have told the UN that it is not safe to continue the journey.

Last night, the relief column had still not reached the trapped convoy. The two armoured cars and two recovery trucks were reported to be several miles away.

Conditions within Gorazde, which has a population of 70,000, are reported to be horrific. Corpses are said to litter the streets, while the starving population scavenges for anything edible. Heavy shelling continued. The past two days' events have shown how hazardous the distribu-

tion of food and medical aid in Bosnia has become. In Sarajevo, the capital, hungry residents have been shelled and mortared as they waited for food aid.

Yesterday, Sarajevo suffered the heaviest fighting for weeks although UN relief flights continued inland. Mortar barrages continued throughout the night, according to police reports, and rockets and machinegun fire could be heard. Serbian forces also launched an unsuccessful ground attack, Sarajevo radio reported.

In Belgrade, Radomir Bozovic, Serbia's prime minister, said yesterday that the UN economic sanctions imposed on the rump Yugoslavia last May were destroying its economy. "These sanctions are destroying the economic tissue of our republics," he told a news conference. He was referring to Serbia and Montenegro, the two republics which make up the new Yugoslavia. The "unjust sanctions" accounted for about 15 per cent of a 35 per cent drop in production, he said.

To cushion the effects of sanctions, the Serbian parliament this month adopted a law that gave the government tight control over the economy.

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# Latin leaders give Castro the cold shoulder

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MADRID

PRESIDENT Castro of Cuba was all but declared an outcast yesterday by government heads from Latin America, Spain and Portugal, who have been meeting in Madrid at an Ibero-American summit.

As the two-day event drew to a close, Dr Castro found himself diplomatically isolated as never before by a joint declaration of the 17 participating countries which stated their rejection of all forms of authoritarianism. "Our objective is a free, open and pluralistic society, with full exercise of all individual liberties, without persecution and exclusion and directed at the achievement of progress and social justice," it said.

The document added: "We observe with preoccupation certain tendencies and attitudes that seek to forget the basis of our founding principles or impose solutions by force. From this perspective we express our rejection of any form or intent to alter the

institutional order of democracy in the Ibero-American countries."

The declaration appears to mark the end of efforts to persuade Dr Castro of the error of his ways by gentle persuasion. He has been all but abandoned by those governments which had hoped to bring him in from the cold, and his one-party Communist rule has been shunned and vilified.

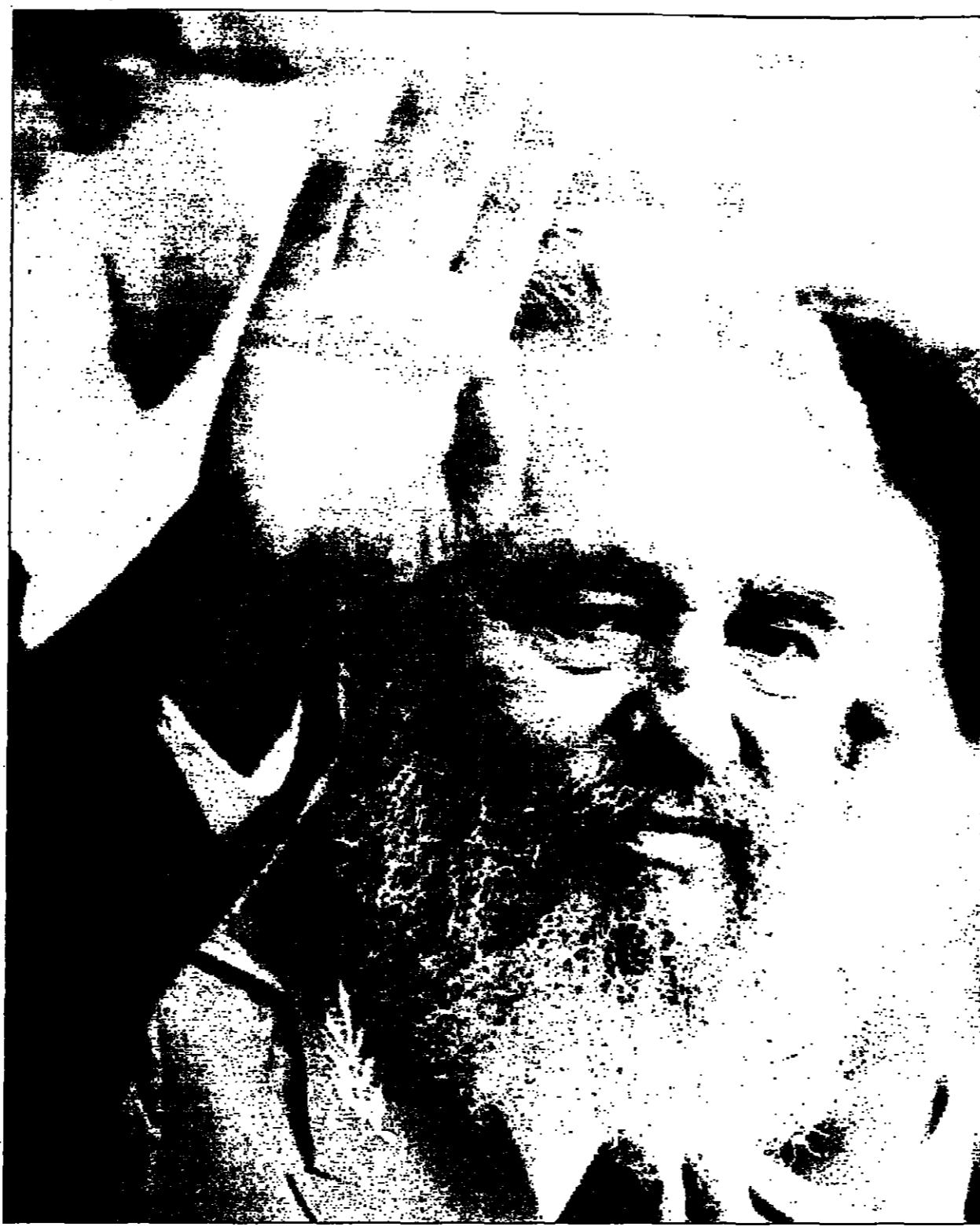
While government heads from the 17 countries held numerous bilateral meetings in private over a range of cultural and economic issues, the Cuban dictator was left smarting over criticism in the Spanish press with no one to talk to. Felipe González, the Spanish prime minister, was expected to meet Dr Castro last night but diplomatic sources said that the encounter was merely to reiterate Madrid's strong views on the need for democracy in Cuba. "We resent the fact that the only country that is not in the democratic stream is Cuba," said Inocencio Arias, the Spanish secretary of state for Ibero-American relations.

Spain tried hard but unsuccessfully last year at the first Ibero-American summit in Mexico to squeeze reforms from Dr Castro. "It did not work but we want to keep putting the pressure on him," Senator Arias said.

Cuban exiles in Madrid said they were delighted by Dr Castro's ostracism. Carlos Alberto Montaner, one of the leaders of the anti-Castro Democratic Platform, said: "Latin America has lost patience with Castro. He has no friends left. They have tried to treat him with respect but there is a general feeling that Castro has betrayed them by his intransigence."

Mario Vargas Llosa, the Peruvian writer and politician, said: "Castro looks increasingly like a figure in a comic opera."

Paris: Reporters Sans Frontières, the French-run press freedom group, yesterday



Looking for support: President Castro waving to the crowd as he leaves his hotel in Madrid for a meeting with King Juan Carlos of Spain during the Ibero-American summit

## Tutu makes appeal to De Klerk

Johannesburg: Archbishop Desmond Tutu said a general strike called by Nelson Mandela, ANC president, could fuel township violence but added that it was up to President de Klerk and his government to avert the situation.

Archbishop Tutu told reporters after meeting Cyrus Vance, the UN peace envoy, that he feared the strike would cause "more anarchy and killings." But he added: "I urge the government to do three things within the next few days — take immediate, clear and specific steps to end political violence, commit yourself to a sovereign constitution-making body and make August 3 a day of reconciliation."

### Islands vote

Victoria, Seychelles' 50,000 voters cast their votes in an election intended to end 15 years of one-party rule, elect a commission to draw up a new constitution and usher in democracy. (Reuters)

### Pleas heeded

Abidjan: President Houphouet-Boigny, 86, Africa's longest serving leader, announced the imminent release of all Ivory Coast's political prisoners, saying he had heeded appeals to forgive and forget. (Reuters)

### MPs hit back

Warsaw: The Polish parliament has found that there are grounds to put Jan Olszewski, the former prime minister, on trial for publishing a list of officials alleged to have been communists agents. (Reuters)

### Batman robber

Munich: An armed robber masked as Batman held seven bank employees hostage. But he was unable to open the safe and surrendered. (AFP)

## China 'has 10m in prisons'

FROM JIM ABRAMS  
IN WASHINGTON

CHINA is holding more than 10 million of its 1.2 billion population — including at least one million political prisoners — in forced labour camps that produce goods for domestic and foreign markets, says a Chinese-American who spent 19 years in prison.

Harry Wu, a research fellow with the Stanford University-based Hoover Institution, said China continues to make big profits from prison-made products and has no intention of abiding by promises to the United States to curtail exports of such goods. "We condemned Stalin's gulag. We condemned Hitler's concentration camps. How can we hold different standards for the *laogai* [forced-labour camps] of China?" Mr Wu asked in a speech to the Heritage Foundation.

Mr Wu sometimes disguised as a businessman seeking contracts, visited 20 labour camps in China last year, which he said were "the foundation of Chinese totalitarianism" and had to pay their own way. In the 1950s and 1960s most *laogai* were engaged in farming, now many have moved into manufacturing, with some 40 per cent of their products destined for export. "Never has a nation created a prison system that pervades all aspects of production," he said. (AP)



Vargas Llosa: Castro "comic opera figure"

day launched an appeal designed to embarrass Dr Castro (Sean Mac Cartaigh writes).

The group cited the case of journalist Restano Díaz, who was given a ten-year sentence last May "simply for expressing different ideas from the Cuban government." He remains the only journalist jailed for his opinions in all the countries represented at the Madrid meeting, the group said.

Thirteen Latin American and Spanish newspaper editors joined with the Montpelier-based group yesterday in a direct appeal to President Castro for the release of their colleague.

## West presses Asean states to act over human rights

FROM ABBY TAN IN MANILA

BURMA came under severe criticism yesterday from Western countries over its human rights record, during a meeting between the Association of South East Asian Nations and foreign ministers from its industrial partners.

Although Burma is not a member of Asean and was not invited to the meeting, Rangoon's ruling junta bore the brunt of attacks by the foreign ministers of the European Community, United States, Australia and Canada when they began their three-day dialogue with Asean foreign ministers.

The question of human rights in the region is also affecting relations between Asean and the EC. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, told Ali Alatas, the Indonesian foreign minister, that the third Asean-EC agreement on cooperation over trade and aid, to be signed in October, was in trouble. British sources say Portugal has vetoed further negotiations on the agreement because of the killings by Indonesian troops of demonstrators in East Timor last November.

Canada's secretary of state of external affairs, Barbara McDougall, expressed dismay at China's support for the Burmese junta. Calling the repression in Burma "a blight on the regional landscape that cries up for concerted action," Ms McDougall said the United Nations General Assembly

should call for a military embargo on the country. Expressing frustration that Asean's quiet diplomacy was not working, she said: "The time is right for more vocal and firm action."

Taking a similar line, the United States Under-Secretary of State, Robert Zoellick, asked: "Isn't it time to say enough is enough?" The Australian foreign minister, Gareth Evans, also urged Asean to put pressure on Burma.

However, Mr Evans, was more equivocal in his remarks on Indonesia, Australia's closest neighbour. While expressing shock at the violence in

## Scientists identify deadly virus in US

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN scientists have identified a potentially deadly virus carried by the Asian tiger mosquito, *Aedes albopictus*, as one of the most dangerous disease-carriers since it thrives in close proximity to people, feeds avidly on a variety of animals and carries a number of ailments, including several forms of encephalitis and dengue fever.

Health officials reported in *Science* journal yesterday that the mosquito, which apparently entered the country in used car tyres shipped to Texas from Japan in 1985, has been found to transmit Eastern equine encephalitis, a rare but

often fatal brain disease when transmitted to people. The striped mosquito, *Aedes albopictus*, is one of the most dangerous disease-carriers since it thrives in close proximity to people, feeds avidly on a variety of animals and carries a number of ailments, including several forms of encephalitis and dengue fever.

Depending on the strain, the equine encephalitis usually kills about 30 to 80 per cent of people who contract it.

## Offended spirits get the blame for Mozambique's drought

THE few western scientists prepared to stick their necks out to explain the terrible droughts sweeping the Horn and the south of Africa may put the disaster down to global warming or the hole in the ozone layer or some other form of man-made ecological disaster. But so far as the traditional巫doctors of Mozambique are concerned they are missing the point.

Down a dusty road on the outskirts of Beira, Mozambique's biggest port, past a dilapidated western-style building set among banana groves and surprisingly neat hedges, lies Mrs Francisca Manuel, who, despite her Christian-sounding name, is a descendant of the region's greatest ruler, Luis Bumbe.

In the days of Portuguese rule, which ended in 1975, Luis held sway over most of the Beira region including the city itself. And according to Mrs Manuel, his granddaughter, the Portuguese administrators may not have

taken much trouble to build schools and housing for their charges but they made sure that they kept Luis happy, and through him the spirits who controlled the rains.

"We did not do the ceremony every year, just when there was not enough rain. The Portuguese made sure they came and made sacrifices [melons, cakes and traditional alcoholic drinks]. Often it would rain when we were on the way."

After independence the tribal chiefs and medicine men were abolished. The *regolos* houses were nationalised and the rain-making ceremonies stopped. Now Mozambique, and the rest of southern Africa, is facing the worst drought in memory which threatens to kill 3.1 million people.

The last *regolo* to reign in the Beira area from Mrs Manuel's little hamlet of Samambanga Muave was Manuel José. But he died last year after performing

just two rain ceremonies in 17 years of Frelimo rule — both of them successful. Although Frelimo has introduced greater political freedoms in areas of the country not under control of their guerrilla enemies, Renamo, administration is still through party secretaries. Earlier this year the local secretariat, in desperation, called on Mrs Manuel's family and begged them to perform a rain-making ceremony. Money was collected for the festivities from the community.

"All the money disappeared and now the spirits are very angry," explained Mrs Manuel. "There is much we can teach these young people but they don't want to listen. We just keep quiet."

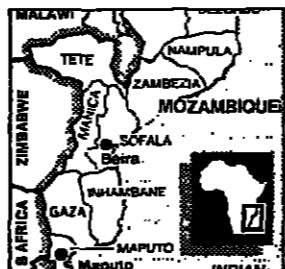
Probing questions about the nature of the ceremony are met, as all over Africa, by blank stares and evasion. Mrs Manuel's tribe, the Ndau, are perhaps the most superstitious and powerful medium in Mozambique — a trait which provokes simultaneous fear and contempt in more southern tribes like the Shangaan and westerners like the Shona.

Another reason for the fear of the Ndau is that Renamo's president, Afonso Dhlakama, is his movement's semi-official language. This would also partly explain the refusal of the Mozambique government to acknowledge the *regolos*. Could the *regolos* have another ceremony now

said the same. Sitting beneath a tree, exhausted and wizened after several days' perilous march through the bush after her farm was attacked by starving Renamo soldiers in search of food and clothes, sat another old lady. Her hair sculpted into a bowl of tiny dreadlocks dyed red with ochre, she explained that her people had been unable to perform a rain ceremony for years "because we have been scattered by the war".

The woman, far from understanding the politics of Mozambique's 16-year civil war but nevertheless a victim of it, seeks succour in the town with 17,000 inhabitants. She said she had heard of the capital, Maputo, and of Beira: "But they are not in our country."

She said: "If we had been left alone we would have been able to go about our natural ways and the rains would have come. Now the children are starving."



## Share price slump spells disaster for Japanese families

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

Perspiring stockbrokers queued patiently in the scorching midday sun yesterday for lunch boxes of grilled eel to give them stamina and boost their energy levels. Harried waitresses said they had seldom been confronted with so many lugubrious faces.

Laconic grunts emerging between mouthfuls of eel testified to the disastrous performance yesterday of the Tokyo stock market. The Nikkei 225 Average, viewed internationally as the barometer of Japan's economic and financial health, has been teetering on the edge of the dreaded "big plunge" for weeks. At the close of the market yesterday, it had fallen to its lowest level in six years, 60 per cent down from its high of December 1989.

With 26 million people holding shares, the fortunes of the Tokyo stock market have a powerful influence on the Japanese public. During the "bubble years" of the late 1980s, investors watched the value of their savings soar as stock and real estate prices went into orbit. Now they can only watch in horror as the value of their investments dwindles daily.

Many investors are housewives, who while away their days poring over the stock prices in the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*, Japan's equivalent of the *Financial Times*. During the bubble years, housewives invested in "family computers" which, attached to their televisions, allowed them to buy and sell stocks as simply as switching channels.

Many women, bored by the solitary nature of this lucrative hobby, arranged stock market coffee mornings. Pro-

fessional investment advisers were invited to address kitchen gatherings over green tea and azuki bean cakes, to tell them of the day's market trends, and then let them loose for hours of trading fun in front of a television screen.

Many office workers, whose pay packets are often controlled by their wives, had their earnings fed steadily into the stock market, some of them unwittingly. These sums have now shrivelled, in some cases to a third of their original size.

One bitter housewife said: "I spent our savings on one share in NTT [Nippon Telegraph and Telephone] which I bought for 3.18 million yen [£13,826] in April 1987. Today it is worth 591,000 yen [£2,569]. I feel utterly cheated because securities companies have been involved in scandals and clearly are protecting their best and biggest corporate clients."

Most individuals are resigned to their fate as the first and least powerful victims of the stock market collapse. They blame the irresponsibility of the large Japanese securities firms, which foisted their least promising stocks on their least discerning investors while artificially boosting the prices of stocks owned by important clients.

However, members of one disbanded coffee morning group recently vented their anger on a hapless salesman who unwittingly came knocking at their doors trying to sell more stocks. The young man was divested of his briefcase and shirt, and locked in a cupboard for five hours.

Japan acts, page 20

AMOUNT INVESTED	INTEREST PAID	GROSS %*	NET %
£25,000 or more	Annually	8.30	6.22
£10,000-£24,999	Annually	7.90	5.92
£1,000-£9,999	Annually	6.65	4.99
£100-£999	Annually	2.65	1.99

AMOUNT INVESTED	INTEREST PAID	GROSS %**	NET %
£25,000 or more	Monthly	8.00**	6.00
£10,000-£24,999	Monthly	7.63**	5.72
£5,000-£9,999	Monthly	6.46**	4.84

AMOUNT INVESTED	INTEREST PAID	GROSS %	NET %
£100 or more	Annually	9.70	7.23
no longer available	Quarterly	9.64	7.23

AMOUNT INVESTED	INTEREST PAID	GROSS %	NET %
Maximum permitted under TESSA rules	Annually	10.80% TAX-FREE	

## Clifford Longley

## Jehovah's Witnesses can help us to clarify the law

Jehovah's Witnesses may deserve no prizes for good answers, but they certainly ask good questions. The questions they repeatedly ask of British society force us to search for common values on which to base public ethics and law, while making as much room as possible for conscience and diversity.

Thus these questions illuminate vexed issues ranging from euthanasia to abortion, so challenging judges, lawmakers and medical professionals, to be humane, consistent and principled. Hard cases, in this sense, make not so much for bad law as for an excellent debate, which clarifies both morality and the law. The "Jehovah's Witness" case before the Court of Appeal yesterday, for instance, is expected to produce next week an important judgment on the rights of parents with regard to their children's medical treatment.

Members of this sect object to blood transfusion. They claim it is forbidden by Jehovah, their name for the deity, in such passages as Leviticus 3, 17: "It shall be a perpetual statute for your generations throughout all your dwellings, that ye eat neither fat nor blood", and Acts 15, 29: "That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood..."

**S**ociety makes it lawful for an adult Jehovah's Witness in possession of his faculties to refuse treatment even unto death, but society has been uncompromising in asserting its own values over those of a Jehovah's Witness parent when a child needs treatment including blood transfusion. Routinely, such a parental refusal leads to an application for the child to be made a ward of court, allowing a judge to make an order permitting treatment in the interest of the child's welfare.

The case decided by the Court of Appeal yesterday concerned the grown-up daughter of a Jehovah's Witness who was critically ill and in need of a blood transfusion. The principle is clear: if her refusal of treatment was made when fully *compos mentis*, whatever her reasons, the court cannot set it aside. In this case, the court was not satisfied she had made such a decision, and treatment was allowed. But a recent Appeal Court judgment concerning an anorexic girl, not a Jehovah's Witness — established that the right to refuse life-saving treatment is not absolute in the case of a person under 18. Being underage, the anorexic girl did not have full legal charge of her own destiny.

The legal right to decline a particular treatment in the knowledge that refusal may lead to death obviously extends to all treatment of adults, whatever the motive, religious or otherwise. So it must include every elderly person with a terminal condition who is entitled in law to object to any attempt to prolong his or her life. This "passive euthanasia" is not regarded as suicide, and is consistent with the principles the law applies to life and death decisions at any other age.

**E**xcept before birth. Here there is a sharp departure from first principles, which suggests, even in the absence of external evidence, that the present state of the law on late abortion is an uneasy and unstable compromise. A one-day-old baby in need of a blood transfusion to save its life would, in the absence of consent from the parents, receive the treatment under a court order. This indicates that in the law's eyes the welfare of a born baby automatically overrides the parents' wishes. But in the case of an unborn baby, perhaps only a single day short of birth, there is no such presumption. Section 37 of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act of 1990 lowered the legal limit on abortion to 24 weeks, but made an exception where "there is a substantial risk that if the child were born it would suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities as to be seriously handicapped".

This sudden discontinuity in the legal status of the child at the time of birth did not exist before the 1990 act repealed the 1929 Infant Life Preservation Act. Although the earlier act did not quite grant an almost-born child all the rights of the born, it did give firm legal protection to the unborn child late in pregnancy. This priority given to the welfare of the unborn was recognisably the same principle that applies when courts order blood transfusions for a new-born baby.

But the conditional consent the 1990 act gives to late abortions contradicts the principle that the welfare of a child should always override the wishes of its parents. And society's moral authority to apply the principle to the protection of Jehovah's Witness children begins to look hypocritical. The repeal of the Infant Life Preservation Act, in other words, has torn a jagged hole in the law's otherwise seamless robe.

**T**omorrow's Times crossword competition should test more than verbal ingenuity, says John Grant

Solving *The Times* crossword is not a mandatory accomplishment. I feel we have to make this clear after yesterday's charming letter in which Monica Purling blames herself for not being able to do so. Most solvers are more inclined to blame the compiler for deficiencies in their armouries, especially the compiler fond of quotations, as I rediscovered at the Times InterCity Crossword Competition.

When introducing our regional finals, I usually point out the link we have always had with the railways. Our oft-stated aim is to produce puzzles that can be solved on a train without reference books. If a word is unfamiliar, I add, then it must be so cited that it can reasonably be deduced.

This last assertion of the Ximenes rule that every clue should provide two separate routes to its answer may prove to

have been incautious. Last year's Scottish champion complains that it was inappropriate in an armful boasting cryptic indications" to use a completely literary clue in one of this year's Glasgow puzzles. "All is but -; known and grace is dead" (*Macbeth* 4).

The quotation cannot be wholly unknown to anyone who studied *Macbeth* at school, and the answer, TOYS, is a familiar word which could be guessed from the interlocking letters. Other quotations, admittedly, may be less familiar.

But plaintiff goes further. "Cook kept notes as a guide (8)" was equally unfair, he argues, because if you happened not to have heard of BAEDEKER you

could not necessarily deduce it (notes EDE in BAKER).

But is the cryptic crossword really to be rendered innocent of all unsupported literary allusion? And will, for instance, the word "single", in the clue "Single girl's best friend", really help the solver to the answer if he doesn't know Anita Loos's maxim that diamonds are a girl's best friend?

This is a far cry from the correspondent who wrote some years ago to say that it was surely axiomatic that a reasonably well-stocked, if somewhat devous, mind was sufficient equipment to embark on the puzzle. He even listed some of the set books: "The Destruction of Sennacherib", "Kubla Khan", Ham-

let, *Macbeth* and *Henry IV*, Part 2 (Part 1 not required).

Ximenes himself certainly disliked quotations as clues — he left there was little thrill in writing in the answer if one knew the quotation — but even he allowed that many solvers love to be sent back to their shelves to recover a forgotten passage. This is one reason why we still use quotations, occasionally direct, more often submerged. Some set books are still in use, and solvers seem to enjoy being reminded of authors as various as Don Marquis (of the archy and mehitabel poems), Stella Gibbons and the Starkadders of *Cold Comfort Farm*, and Rupert Brooke and his unofficial English rose.

Another reason is that a quotation, which can usually be guessed if not known, will often help solvers, particularly beginners, to get started with a seemingly recalcitrant puzzle. The one rule we try to observe is not to trawl the dictionary of quotations looking for something to drag in by the scruff of its neck. Worthwhile quotations are those which emerge naturally from the lumber-room of the compiler's mind.

One is also uneasily aware that if literary allusion is frowned upon, other areas of knowledge may similarly come to be regarded as unfair harassment of the solver. A civilised crossword must be a test of intelligence, reading and general

knowledge as well as of logic and verbal ingenuity. Literal shifts, verbal deceptions and the like are a dull diet if unrelieved by wit, imagination and little learning.

Analysis of *The Times* InterCity national finalists confirms the evidence of previous years, that the two most successful classes of solvers are the teachers and the computer specialists (three of each this year). But like the other 23 finalists, they are all-rounders. Otherwise they would not have come through this far.

The national final takes place tomorrow, at the Hilton Hotel, Park Lane, London, at 2pm. Admission is free, and spectators can tackle the same puzzles as the finalists and other word games. Doors close quarter of an hour before the start.

*The author is Crossword Editor of The Times.*

## Plain guide to cryptic clues

## Trouble at the rumour mill

For better or worse, gossip is Westminster's way of life, recalls Robert Rhodes James

**S**hortly after I became an MP, a shrewd old Whig, John Stradling Thomas, said to me: "Take care. This place is like a village. Assume all walls have ears." I felt that this was a bit rough on the average English village, and I have certainly never lived in one with such a constellation of egoists, careerists, prima donnas and bores, leavened by the decent and good-humoured majority, and blessedly none so obsessed by their denizens.

Most politicians enjoy gossip about other politicians, and particularly if it is to their disadvantage. Much of it turns out to be quite untrue. Once, Michael Alison, a political saint if ever there was one and an old friend, consoled me about my terminal cancer. When I asked him in amazement where he had heard this nonsense, he replied, "One of the Whips." I then discovered that a lot of colleagues were going around feeling sorry for me (and, no doubt, furtively looking up my majority), and a friendly Whig correspondent asked me openly if it was true.

This particular rumour was not malignant; I had been mildly unwell with a dermatological complaint which made much of my hair fall out within a few months it had grown back again to its original colour. Someone had assumed that I was receiving chemotherapy; from this it was a short step to writing me off. This may have been why, when I asked for ten days away to attend a special meeting on the 75th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings in Turkey, I was given permission with alacrity, as part of the "we must be especially kind to Robert" movement that was sweeping the Palace of Westminster. I wondered at the time why everyone was being so nice to me. When it

was all too obvious to MPs and

political correspondents: he was not called "Squiffy" for nothing, and nor was the Commons nickname of "the Goat" at all inappropriate for Lloyd George.

But some at least of the Westminster rumour machine is deliberately malicious, as in the whispering campaigns in the late 1930s, originating in the Tory Whips' office, against Churchill's drinking, Duff Cooper's drinking and womanising, Eden's unbalanced temperament, Macmillan being cuckolded by Boothby, and any other alleged misdemeanours and character deficiencies of anyone who dared to question the infallibility of Chamberlain's government. A taste of this poison can be had from James Stuart's autobiography, although ironically Stuart's own private life was somewhat strenuous. The atmosphere is perfectly caught in the complete, and as yet unpublished, diaries of "Chips" Channon, who unashamedly adored political gossip, and seemed not to know that there was a good deal about him.

But in those days character assassination was limited to the Westminster square mile. Loyal Liberals in the country had no

knowledge of Asquith's heavy drinking, nor of Lloyd George's relationship with his secretary, although the former was often

all too obvious to MPs and

political correspondents: he was not called "Squiffy" for nothing, and nor was the Commons nickname of "the Goat" at all inappropriate for Lloyd George.

Until long after her death, the public knew nothing of Lady Dorothy Macmillan's love for Boothby, and similarly the long affair between Philip Noel-Baker — an egregious hypocrite if ever there was one — and Megan Lloyd George was not public knowledge. Although a lot of people knew, the press remained silent, perhaps because some of the press barons themselves had cupboards rattling with skeletons.

Even in these much less inhibited days, serious political correspondents and editors are cautious about believing the Westminster rumour-mill, and rightly so. As in my case, a rumour can buzz around the place with alarming speed, and then turn out to be wholly false. At the time of the Profumo scandal, some of these were amazing, and there were so many that it was impossible to keep track of them; but at that time the Conservative party and the press seemed to have had a collective nervous breakdown, and there was a strong tendency to believe everything because the truth itself was so incredible. I was highly sceptical of most of

the stories, not least because the abominable George Wigg was

hard at work fanning the flames and chucking on gallons of petrol to boot.

The rumours seemed to be on

a par with the whispering campaign in the Thirties, which probably also originated in the Chamberlain camp, to the effect that Brendan Bracken, Churchill's doughy and — with Boothby — virtually sole supporter was his illegitimate son, which explained everything.

Churchill's wife was highly indignant; but Churchill and Bracken laughed it off, and the latter impishly refused to deny this absurd canard. The libel damages if the claim had been published would have been sensational for the times.

This fear is undoubtedly an

inhibiting factor in today, although

there are still journalists and

editors who consider that poli-

cians' private lives are not fair

game, and that revelations

about them are certainly not in

the public interest. Details about

cabinet minister did when she

was 19 certainly are not, nor, in

my view, are comments about

Cecil Parkinson's problems, al-

though in this case it was the

lady concerned who went pub-

licly round; which they did. Thus Commons gossip is far from invariably malicious. Kind deeds of friendship or family tragedies are mentioned; as are outstanding speeches or the conduct of an obscure minister in an obscure committee; the unfair sacking of a popular minister can be censured (as happened very notably in the cases of George Young and Alastair Goodlad) and this may be picked up by listening Whips. The Commons has an extraordinary capacity to be both very cruel and immensely kind to its Members. Good political gossip at lunch or in Annie's Bar is about the only feature of parliamentary life that I shall miss.

But Commons gossip can also be benign, even helpful. On one occasion: I learnt quite fortuitously in a chat with a Labour friend that the widow of one of my ex-colleagues was in dire financial straits but too proud to ask for assistance. My friend did not know that there is a fund to help people in her position, and I knew the MP responsible for cabinet minister did when she was 19 certainly are not, nor, in my view, are comments about Cecil Parkinson's problems, although in this case it was only too true — and his friends were asked to

but while it is diverting for historians to chortle over Disraeli's rake's progress in his youth and early career, Gladstone's mysterious and ambiguous night prowlings to rescue prostitutes, Franklin Roosevelt's infidelity and John Kennedy's extra-presidential activities, did they really matter? And would it really have been "in the public interest" to have blazoned these cases abroad, possibly destroying these men politically? In every case it certainly would not. I still wish that Margaret Thatcher had adamantly refused to accept Cecil Parkinson's resignation, and applauded the prime minister's refusal to permit the honoubling of David Mellor to end his ministerial career.

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## SMITH FORGES HIS TOOLS

The first test for John Smith's new shadow team will be whether it can become an effective Opposition. Whether Labour is a plausible government-in-waiting will arise later in the Parliament. Mr Smith himself has made a strong start as Opposition leader. He has shown a willingness to change his party, particularly its relations with the unions. The shadow cabinet, elected on Thursday and allocated responsibilities yesterday, is, with a few notable exceptions, the best available to Mr Smith.

The 13 years that Labour has been out of office has had an effect. Mr Smith is the sole member of his 20-strong team with cabinet experience. Only four of the rest were even junior ministers or whips in the last Labour government. Half the team were not even in the Commons. Few have any inside knowledge of Whitehall. Yet inexperience is not a disadvantage if the alternative is retaining old stagers well past their best, as Harold Wilson did when he included tired veterans of the Attlee government in his first government in 1964.

One of the sadder results of the Labour upheavals of the 1980s was not only that talented figures departed for the SDP, but that many potential talents were discouraged from offering themselves as parliamentary candidates by the turmoil in constituency parties. Some have even ended up in the House of Lords – a team at least comparable with the frontbench in the Commons.

The shadow cabinet thus remains an uneven team. All members other than John Prescott at transport have been reshuffled. At the top are energetic spokesmen willing to think originally, such as Gordon Brown (Treasury), Tony Blair (home affairs) and Jack Straw (local government and housing). The best entertainment is offered by the matching of Robin Cook against Michael Heseltine at trade and industry.

But Jack Cunningham will have to

sharpen his performance if he is to worry Douglas Hurd, and there are too many dull worthies such as Tom Clarke at Scotland and David Clark at defence. Health, employment and education, which require fresh Labour thinking, will be shadowed by David Blunkett, Frank Dobson and Ann Taylor respectively. They have not shown themselves ready in the past to challenge vested party interests. They are unlikely to disturb the sleep of the ministers whom they are shadowing.

Mr Smith has made too much of the presence of five women in his top team against the two in John Major's cabinet. More significant has been his willingness to put most of them into mainstream portfolios rather than the second rank jobs they previously occupied.

The new team has two immediate tasks. The first, generally absent in the three months since the election, is the traditional opposition role of challenging ministers. Labour has to be careful both over the Maastricht treaty and the economy to avoid taking positions which might be attractive in the short term, such as supporting devaluation, but which could be politically damaging in the long term. But the first duty of a shadow spokesman is to force ministers to justify their positions.

The longer-term task for Mr Smith's team is to review policy. There is no need for premature policy commitments, but Labour spokesmen have to avoid the trap of becoming the captives of union and other producer interest groups. That is not recognised by all of Mr Smith's new team. The real test for the shadow cabinet is whether in two years' time they are generally seen as leading the public debate, rather than lagging behind muttering about the iniquities of Tory policies. Only then will Labour start to be regarded as a credible alternative government.

But Jack Cunningham will have to

## IGNITING OLYMPIC IDEALS

When the torch is carried into the stadium above Barcelona this morning to light the Olympic flame, it will rekindle one of the most potent modern myths. For the next fortnight more than 10,000 of the best athletes in the world from 172 countries will run, jump and perform more sophisticated feats in 28 sports of a variety to bamboozle even Hercules, the legendary founder of the Games – good at impossible labours, Hercules would surely have floundered at synchronised swimming. The athletes will be accompanied by 100,000 official camp followers, and will be watched by 3,500 million on television.

There has always been a discrepancy between the rhetoric of the Olympic Games and their reality. For most of this century, they were nominally strictly amateur, though in the West athletes had sporting university scholarships that required nothing more academic than circuit training, and in the Soviet empire they were given commissions in the armed services.

The Games have always been meant to find the fastest and strongest on a level playing field; in the ancient Games the judges had canes to beat runners who tried to get an unfair advantage by starting early, while in the modern Games athletes are often suspected of using drugs to gain a more surreptitious advantage.

The modern Games were reinvented by de Coubertin to promote international good will. The president of Barcelona's Olympic organising committee, Pasqual Maragall, declared yesterday that this XXVth Olympiad more than any of its predecessors had become a universal fiesta of brotherhood between nations. But in practice, sadly, the Olympics can breed chauvinism.

The most poisonous shot of nationalism was injected into the Olympics at the Nazi Games in Berlin in 1936. With his massed swastikas and banners and torches, Hitler intended them to be a triumphalist celebra-

## JUDGES

An American lady mugged in a shopping mall is suing the owner of the premises for a million dollars, for failing to prevent the attack. Everybody knows that there are fortunes to be made in America by inventing new ways of taking fellow citizens to the legal cleaners. They will presumably only stop when the entire nation is divided into just four categories: defendants, plaintiffs, lawyers – or actors, playing the other three categories in television courtroom dramas.

A scheme to encourage the identical trend in Britain has just been put to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, by the new Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor. He does not know that that is what it is, of course. He thinks he is simply asking for more judges, for the straightforward reason that waiting lists for civil actions in the High Court are long and growing longer. In the Queen's Bench Division last year, the average time between the issuing of a writ and the starting of a trial was 157 weeks. Similarly the London Common Law and Commercial Bar Association wants to attack long waiting lists by penalising any lawyer who adds to the delay, for instance by not being ready when the case is listed for a hearing.

Justice delayed is justice denied is the worthy sentiment equally of Lord Taylor and the 1,200 members of the association, which has sent a copy of its report to Lord Mackay. Justice made too quick and easy only encourages unnecessary legal disputes, ought to be the Lord Chancellor's robust reply. We are an increasingly litigious nation, he should say, and ought to be taught better ways of settling (or otherwise coming to terms with our differences, before mugged ladies start suing shopping-mall owners all over Britain too).

## MELLOR: THE RIGHT TO KNOW AND THE RIGHT TO STAY IN OFFICE

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

From Mr Joe Ashton, MP for Bassettaw (Labour)

Sir, As might be expected from a Press Complaints Commission which includes tabloid editors, it has now stated at its emergency meeting over the David Mellor affair report, July 23) that the public has the right to be informed about the private behaviour of politicians if it affects the conduct of public business. I reluctantly support that view – however difficult the judgments involved, and however inevitable the abuses by the press in putting it into effect.

Politicians seeking my support frequent their underlying moral values. I am inclined to take these into account in my choices: in general, because I am concerned about the quality of those who are to represent me and also for the relation of particular values to policies in the fields in which I am interested. If the behaviour of politicians contradicts their professed values, it is, I think, proper for me to know of that and to make of it the best judgment I can.

Such publicity can only cheapen all marriages by depressing the public regard for moral discipline. A single "affair" such as now besmirches our media – with titillating stories and salacious pictures – may help to bring many an otherwise stable marriage to grief. If he can do it, why not?

The excuse of some editors that "the public interest" is served by publication compounds the evil – by blatant dishonesty, journalistic self-interest masquerading as the public interest (not to mention the devious methods whereby these stories are usually obtained and paid for).

The right to know is neither sacred nor absolute; sometimes eating of the tree of knowledge leads to death and corruption.

Yours sincerely,  
JAKOBIVITS.  
House of Lords.

July 24.

From the President of the Historic Houses Association

Sir, All those involved with the heritage were delighted when the prime minister created the new Department of National Heritage. After five days of savaging Mr Mellor for his alleged dalliance, isn't it time the tabloid press allowed him to get on with his job, for which he is still eminently suitable?

Yours faithfully,  
SHELBURNE, President,  
Historic Houses Association,  
2 Chester Street, SW1.

July 24.

From the Reverend David Harley

Sir, I have high regard for the work of the Council of Christians and Jews but I cannot let the article by its director, Michael Latham, pass without comment.

He seems to assume that liberal Christians and mainstream Christians are synonymous and that his understanding of the decade of evangelism has universal support.

He assumes that preaching to Jews is "proselytism" but preaching to anybody else is not, and that those who witness to Jews are totally unaware of, and insensitive to, the horrendous suffering of the Jewish people at the hands of the Church.

He assumes that their past experience of redemption means that they have no need of a Messiah and that whatever Jesus was and whatever he did had nothing to do with the Jewish people on behalf, on the cross?

"The first, second, third and fourth priority of the decade of evangelism" is not, as Michael Latham puts it, to fill the churches, but (Mark xvi, 15) to "go into all the world and preach the Good News to all creation" – Jew and gentile alike.

The preaching of the apostles was unwavering on the nature of salvation through Jesus's death, for Jews and gentiles: when addressing the Jewish religious leaders of their time Peter and John said: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts iv, 12).

If the Christian message really is glorious what does that make us if we refuse to share the news of God's mercy, shown through Jesus's death on our behalf, on the cross?

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Yours faithfully,  
C. D. HARLEY,  
The Cedars, Easneye,  
Ware, Hertfordshire.

July 20.

From the Reverend Robert Weissman

Sir, I regard Michael Latham's article as inaccurate and unauthoritative. Many thousands of Jews such as myself are grateful to the Lord that some caring Christians prayed for us and spoke to us of Jesus being the glory of God's people Israel. It can never be evil for those who love Jesus to speak well of Him to the Jews.

Jewish Christians believe Jesus to be the only Messiah. God has pro-

vided; His death on the cross proves God's love.

I am grateful that the Church not only began with Jewish believers but has always included Jews as well as people of other backgrounds. Furthermore, as the New Testament shows Jewish evangelism to be the Church's priority (Romans 1, 16), leaving out the Jews from hearing the gospel must invite God's displeasure.

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The preaching of the apostles was unwavering on the nature of salvation through Jesus's death, for Jews and gentiles: when addressing the Jewish religious leaders of their time Peter and John said: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts iv, 12).

If the Christian message really is glorious what does that make us if we refuse to share the news of God's mercy, shown through Jesus's death on our behalf, on the cross?

"The first, second, third and fourth priority of the decade of evangelism" is not, as Michael Latham puts it, to fill the churches, but (Mark xvi, 15) to "go into all the world and preach the Good News to all creation" – Jew and gentile alike.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD DIMENT,  
Director and Chief Executive,  
British Rail Federation,  
Pillar House,  
194-202 Old Kent Road, SE1.

July 22.

From Mrs Zoë Lee

Sir, I have paid my annual visit to the Royal Tournament. As in previous years, it is the finest spectacle to be seen anywhere. In addition, the personnel involved, both performing and manning the stalls, exhibits, and activities for children, guiding the lost, answering queries, cannot be bettered.

Our armed services are our pride, our guardians, and visible international as proof of this country's worth. That they are going to be reduced and kept short of money is just stupid.

Yours truly,  
ZOË LEE.

5 Hertswood Court,  
Hillside Gardens,  
Barnet, Hertfordshire.

July 17.

From Mr K. G. Edmonds

Sir, Was it really necessary, on TV, to show chocolate-box toy soldiers and chorus nymphs at a Royal Tournament? Isn't it time these inanities were excluded from the tournament, and tattoos, until some measure of display associated with some form of military expertise can be presented?

Yours horrified,  
K. G. EDMONDS.

Kensington, London Road North,  
Poynont, Cheshire.

July 18.

Weekend Money letters, page 26

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number – (071) 782 5046.

## CARRINGTON PEACE MISSION FAILURE

From Miss Vivian Grisogono

Sir, Lord Carrington's failures to secure peace in the two ravaged republics of former Yugoslavia, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, are now so numerous that everyone seems to have lost count. What is the point of him carrying on?

He has not only failed to secure any kind of ceasefire. He has also failed to obtain safe passage for humanitarian relief, whether of medicines or supplies into beleaguered regions, or of wounded people or civilians out of them.

Since the UN-negotiated "ceasefire" in January, occupied areas of Croatia have visibly remained in Serbian hands. The ruins of Vukovar, shamefully, have become a tourist site for Serbian visitors.

Lord Carrington's greatest failure has been his inability to identify clearly who the aggressor forces are, and the extent to which they must be blamed for the war in former Yugoslavia. His constant reiteration, in all circumstances, that blame must be apportioned to all sides in some measure, greatly undermines his credibility in a situation of blatant invasion and unlimited destruction by heavily armed and carefully prepared Yugoslav belligerents.

Is it reasonable to expect the Bosnians, defending their internationally recognised territory, to have confidence in the fairness of his negotiations?

It is surely time to replace Lord Carrington's peace forum with a peace-making body of greater force, which could command greater respect from the war-makers and their victims.

Yours faithfully,  
VIVIAN GRISOGONO  
(Croatian Peace Forum),  
62 Lulworth Avenue,  
Hounslow, Middlesex.  
July 21.

From Miss Nora Beloff

Sir, The Times (leader, July 21) should think again before endorsing the British government's rejection of the French initiative for winding up the Carrington mission in favour of a bolder initiative. This would involve enabling the French and Russians to put pressure on the Serbs to draw back from non-Serb territories which they have occupied, but only on condition that the Germans and Austrians agreed to restrain the Croats and Muslims from trying to impose their rule on unwilling Serb communities.

Lord Carrington started last year wisely with the proposition that the outside world should recognise the independence of the component parts of Yugoslavia only after agreement had been reached safeguarding the Serb minorities. He allowed himself to be overruled by the Germans, who insisted on endorsing unilateral declarations of independence which were a certain prescription for civil war.

Further, confronting a Bosnian claim for independence, Carrington knew that the Serb minority in Bosnia would no more accept subjugation to a Muslim-Croat majority than would the Catholics of Northern Ireland (also one third of their province's population) willingly submit to Stormont rule. Carrington sensibly tried – and thought he had succeeded – in averting catastrophe by proposing a system of "cantonisation": allowing the separate communities to manage their own affairs.

Yet after President Izebergovic went on Sarajevo radio (March 29) confessing that he had only pretended to agree in order to win international recognition, Carrington endorsed the Western policy of imposing sanctions exclusively on Serbs and laying all the blame on Serb aggression.

Sincerely,  
NORA BELOFF,  
11 Belsize Road, NW6.  
July 21.

## COPING WITH HOODS

From Mrs H. W. Brown

Sir, After failing for many years to keep my hood in place (letters, July 20, 21) I have found the solution: matching strips of black Velcro on gown and hood. When the gown is worn without the hood the panels look slightly mysterious (some foreign honour, perhaps?) but not obtrusive.

Yours faithfully,  
HELEN BROWN,  
27 Victoria Road, Oxford.

## PUTTING HER BACK INTO IT

From Mr A. F. Rakes

Sir, The modern caddy's role is now much more as a provider of psychological and intellectual support (wardrobes, pin placements, club selection) and general encouragement than as a provider of mere carrying power (Mr John Dove's letter, July 22).

Why therefore, instead of buying Ms Sunesson a trolley (the use of which is said by many to be itself a cause of back problems), should not Mr Faldo employ a second caddy to carry his bag, leaving Ms Sunesson free to concentrate exclusively on her advisory duties?

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY RAIKES.  
Tower Mill, Mark Cross,  
Nr Crowborough, East Sussex.  
July 23.



## COURT CIRCULAR

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## BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 24: His Excellency Mr George Dove-Edwin and Mrs Dove-Edwin were received in a farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for the Federal Republic of Nigeria in London.

His Excellency Dr A.F.M. Yusuf was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the High Commission: Mr M. Moazhar Hossain (Deputy High Commissioner), Mr M.M. Reza (Economic Minister), Brigadier Sanwar Huda (Defence Adviser).

Mr Ahmar Hussain (Minister Consular), Mr M. Mirza Shah (Counselor and Head of Chancery), Mr Shahjahan Majumdar (First Secretary, Commerce), Mr Mosud Mannan (Second Secretary, General).

Sir David Gillmore (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present, and the Household in Waiting was in attendance.

The Lord Vestey, Lord Prior to the Order of St John, was received by The Queen.

The Lord Waddington was received by The Queen upon his appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Berwick.

Lady Waddington was also received by Her Majesty.

The Earl of Airlie, Kt. (Lord Chamberlain) had an audience of The Queen and presented Addresses from the House of Lords to which Her Majesty was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President, attended the Closing Sessions of the Duke of Edinburgh's Seventh Commonwealth Study Conference in Oxford today.

Rear Admiral Sir John Garnier was in attendance.

## Birthdays

Lord Nicholas Windsor celebrates his birthday today.

TODAY: Sir Clifford Boulton, Clerk of the House of Commons, 62; Mr Clive Bradley, chief executive, Publishers' Association, 58; Mr James Butler, sculptor, 61; Sir William Coats, former chairman, Coal Paitons, 68; Mr Roy Collard, headmaster, Bristol Cathedral School, 40; The Hon Lady Goodhart, principal, Queen's College, London, 53; Sir Charles Gordon, former Clerk of the House of Commons, 74; Sir Kenneth Macdonald, civil servant, 62; Sir John McMichael, former director, British Post-graduate Medical Federation, 88; Sir David Napley, solicitor, 77; Professor W.R. Niblett, educationist, 86; Sir Derek Palmer, former president, Bass, 73; the Earl of Portsmouth, 38; Miss Margaret Puxon, QC, 77; Professor Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn, 55; the Right Rev Barry Rogerson, Bishop of Bristol, 50.

TOMORROW: Sir Peter Carey, chairman, Dalgety, 69; Professor Giocinda De Vito, violinist, 85; Mr Vito Gerulaitis, tennis player, 38; Mr Mick Jagger, Rolling Stones singer, 49; Miss Barbara Jefford, actress, 62; Dr John Kilgour, former director of prison medical services, Home Office, 68; Mr Stanley Kubrick, film director, 64; Professor James Lovelock, scientist, 73; Miss Helen Mirren, actress, 46; Baroness Oppenheim-Barnes, 62; Mr Lance Percival, actor and singer, 59; Sir Frank Price, former chairman, British Waterways Board, 71; Mr Richard Ricketts, diplomat, 80; Miss Bernice Reid, former Secretary to the late Prime Minister, 64; Professor Sir John Stalhoun, gynaecologist, 86; Lord Thorneycroft, CH, 83; Mr M.H.W. Wells, former chairman, Chatterhouse, Japhet, 65; Dr Anne Wright, Vice-chancellor, Sunderland University, 46.

THE DIVINE WISDOM, Worcester Rd, W2 9:30 M-11 Divine Liturgy.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, Ennismore Gardens, W8 7ST-10:30 Divine Liturgy.

SERBIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF ST JEROME, 100 Gloucester Rd, W1: 11 Divine Liturgy.

THE CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace, 8:30 HC, 9:15 S Euch, Missa pro defunctis, 10:30 S Euch, Mass for the Dead, 11:30 S Euch, Mass for the Living.

ROYAL HOSPITAL CHAPEL, SW3: 11 M, Mass for the Dead, 12:30 S Euch, Mass for the Living.

CHURCH OF ST CECILIA, CHELSEA, SW3: 8:30 HC, 11:15 S Euch, Mass for the Dead, 12:30 S Euch, Mass for the Living.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M-12 M Communion in a fast, let all the world (Vaughan Williams).

THE CHAPEL OF ST ANDREW, SW1: 8:30 HC, 11:15 S Euch, Organ Mass, 12:30 S Euch, Organ Mass.

THE CHAPEL OF ST MICHAEL, SW1: no services until October 4.

LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL: 11:30 MP-2:30 PM, Organ Recital, 8:30 PM-9:30 PM, Organ Recital.

THE CHAPEL OF ST MARY, SW1: 8:30 HC, 11:15 S Euch, Mass for the Dead, 12:30 S Euch, Mass for the Living.

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## OBITUARIES

## ROSEMARY SUTCLIFF

**Rosemary Sutcliff, OBE, FRSL**, historical novelist and author of many books for children, died on July 23 aged 71. She was born at West Clandon, Surrey, on December 14, 1920.

IN THE decades following the second world war a generation of writers and illustrators came to the fore who brought new lustre to the making of children's books. Rosemary Sutcliff is among the greatest of these, despite, or perhaps because of, her concentration on a fairly narrow field of historical writing. Novels such as *Simon*, set in the Civil War, the Elizabethan *Brother Dusty-Feet* and the Bronze Age *Warrior Scarlet* were the result of meticulous research and designed to appeal to children and adults alike. She was particularly at home in the period when the Romans were leaving Britain to the depredations of the Saxons and the Vikings, the Sea Wolves, as she called them.

Rosemary Sutcliff was born into a naval family (her father, George Ernest Sutcliff, rose to become Commodore of Convoy during the war) but the itinerant childhood which this entailed was further complicated by early illness. At the age of two and a half she contracted Still's disease, and the unstoppable progress of this painful and debilitating form of juvenile arthritis necessarily dominated her growth to maturity. Over the years she travelled with her parents from dockyard town to dockyard town and, although she attended schools intermittently, much of her education took place at home or during spells in hospital.

These early years were recalled by her in her typically frank but witty memoir *Blue Remembered Hills* (1983) where she notes that "the only subject I was any good at was art" — which resulted in her going, at the age of 14, to the Bideford School of Art, where she took a full three-year course with considerable success. Her parents, however, dissuaded her from attempting large-scale painting, and after she had gained her diploma she began to develop a career as a miniature painter and was a lifelong member of the Royal Society of Miniature Painters.

Rosemary Sutcliff's mother — whose presence was recognised by her daughter as being profoundly influential — had also encouraged her to a love of reading, not least



through her own devotion to storytelling and reading aloud. Kipling was a particular favourite and, during the war years, Rosemary Sutcliff began to turn her attention to writing as an even more tractable occupation than miniature painting. She experimented with a Kipling-esque epic called "Wild Sunrise" which she later said, with a sigh of relief, "sank without trace". Nevertheless, she persevered with further ideas for stories set in the past and eventually, at the request of the children's department of Oxford University Press, she prepared a manuscript of *The Chronicles of Robin Hood* which was published, alongside her first story, *The Queen Elizabeth Story*, in 1950.

There is little in these early works

that was to suggest the breakthrough that came in 1953 with *Simon*, with its Civil War setting, and in 1954 with *Eagle of the Ninth*, a tale of the Romans in Britain, which was directly inspired by *Puck of Pook's Hill*. In these two books her gift for imagining herself back into an historical period came to maturity and revealed her ability to give graphic life to a past age and to recognise the constant dilemmas posed by the need to make responsible decisions. Families divide but conscience must be followed; loyalties exact hard penalties.

*Eagle of the Ninth* brought Rosemary Sutcliff nation-wide fame — partly through a highly successful serialisation on BBC Radio's *Children's Hour* (She once heard a child making a sandcastle say "I'm build-

ing a temple to Mithras"). More importantly though, it led her to a sequence of powerful novels in which she refined her skill at integrating the story of an individual into an intensely imagined historical setting. Several of these novels are linked through subtly suggested family connections, and the use of a "dolphin ring" (eg *The Silver Branch*, 1957; *The Lantern Bearers*, 1959; and *Dawn Wind*, 1961) and these culminated in her Arthurian novel, published for adults, *Sword at Sunset* (1963).

Other stories stand to one side of this sequence, either through being set in a different period, such as *The Shield Ring* (1956) an heroic tale of Vikings defending their Lake District redoubt against the Normans, or

through the psychological force of the story, as in what many regard as her masterpiece *The Mark of the Horse Lord* (1965). This book like several of its predecessors gained a further dimension through the strong and closely integrated illustrations of Charles Keeping.

Rosemary Sutcliff was from the first insistent upon the importance of research into facts and into past modes of thought as a foundation for her historical novels and this gave rise to her writing some evocative books of historical description, such as *Houses and History* (1960) and some versions of myth, such as *Beowulf* (1961). She also wrote several other novels for adults and a group of short, individually published tales for young readers. Almost all this extensive output was distinguished by a vigour of writing and a detailed apprehension of the landscape of the past which showed her triumphant success in overcoming the crippling physical disabilities that had been with her since childhood. The perseverance, balance, and sanguine humour exhibited by many of her heroes were hers as well. She was an inspiring and most companionable spirit.

She did not believe in shielding children from sad or dreadful happenings but felt a responsibility to point out a path, a right way of doing things and a hope for the future, the triumph of civilisation against barbarism. Children, she believed, were capable of understanding intuitively rather than literally and would come back eventually to what they did not understand the first time.

The extent and depth of her research can be judged from the bibliography for *The Lantern Bearers* which lists 30 books with Sir Arthur Bryant and Sir Mortimer Wheeler rubbing shoulders with Gildas and Nennius and books on Judaism, Celtic Christianity and monasticism. Denied by her arthritic condition most domestic pleasures she worked constantly from mid-morning until nightfall on her writing, sometimes completing three books a year.

Rosemary Sutcliff's achievements did not go unnoticed. She gained a number of awards for her children's books, including, in 1960, the Library Association's Carnegie Medal for *The Lantern Bearers*. She was appointed OBE in 1975 and was a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

## MAXINE AUDLEY

**Maxine Audley, actress**, died on July 23 aged 69. She was born in London on April 29, 1923.

MAXINE Audley was a class-

ical actress in the grand manner whose career peaked at Stratford and the Old Vic in the late 1940s and early 1950s. In films, on television and on radio, however, she continued to be a familiar performer, her elegant pose and thrilling, deep voice epitomising glamour and sophistication or simply mind-smooth sex-appeal. She had a finely sculpted beauty which, as she grew older, enabled her to graduate from *ingénue* roles to glamorous wicked queens, seductresses and vamps. Although theatre was her greatest love she appeared frequently in recent years in such television series as *Lovejoy*, *Bergerac* and *Casualty* and was Mrs Marlow in the award-winning *Prime Suspect*. In the immediate post-war period she worked frequently on tours with Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh, who were her friends.

Maxine Audley was educated at Weston-super-Mare and then drama schools in London and New York. She made her stage debut at the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park on July 27, 1940, walking on in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and then after two years in regional repertory companies returned to the Park and then to Hippodrome for the 1942 season, where she also played Nerissa in *The Merchant of Venice*.

Wartime troop tours then occupied her until 1945, when she first joined an Old Vic tour as *Rain in Arms and the Man*. Two more years in repertory at Salisbury and Nottingham followed, before she made her Stratford debut in 1949 as *Emilia in Othello*. Her long association with the Oliviers started in 1951 when they invited her to join them in their double season at the St James's of *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Caesar and Cleopatra*.

A keen photographer and accomplished player of the spinet, Maxine Audley was married four times.



## July 25 ON THIS DAY 1970

**Sir Frederick Ashton's wide-ranging achievements in the field of ballet were splendidly celebrated at this "choreographic retrospective". Ashton died in 1988.**

**John Percival**

**A splendid night of ballet treasures**

Royal Opera House

When a man has done as much as Frederick Ashton, what on earth do you choose to sum up his achievement? The Royal Ballet's solution at last night's Covent Garden gala was simply to put on the most splendidly lecture-demonstration that can ever have been given. Robert Helpmann was the uniquely-qualified exponent of Sir Fred's life and career. Starting with the champagne-decked table from *A Wedding Bouquet*, and making his second half entry in the balloon from *Les Sirenes*, Helpmann was in charge throughout.

First he had giant photo projections to summon up nostalgia: Ashton as an innocent-looking child and pictures of his earliest works. Then came danced extracts from something like half of his more than 80 ballets. To make it a surprise for Sir Fred it was rehearsed behind locked doors and even the audience were not allowed programmes until leaving.

At the end flowers, presents but fortunately not too much in the way of speeches. Lord Drogheda's announcement that Ashton will in future be known as founder-choreographer to the Royal Ballet was appreciated, but even more Ashton's own almost inarticulate brief speech of thanks. Beforehand he had told me: "I shall ask my doctor for something to stop me from blushing". If he did, it did not work, but Sir Fred was in good company: I imagine most of us present were pretty near tears.

## ARLETTY



**Arletty (Léonie Bathiat)**, the unforgettable star of Marcel Carné's screen masterpiece *Les Enfants du Paradis*, died yesterday in Paris aged 94. She was born in the Courbevoie suburb on May 15, 1898.

ALTHOUGH she had command of a wide range of gifts, popular singer, music hall performer, comic and straight stage actress, it is to the underlying melancholy that Marcel Carné discovered in her, that Arletty owes her immortality. Her career was to last into the 1960s, as she paid frequent return visits to the stage where it had begun. But she belonged essentially to the golden age of French cinema, the 1930s and 1940s when masterpieces seemed to flow effortlessly from the Paris studios.

Her apotheosis was her performance as Garance, the elusive beauty loved so intensely and so much in vain in *Les Enfants du Paradis*. Indeed the world owes to Carné's perceptiveness the discovery of an aspect of her character which might have lain forever buried under the earthy and joyous vulgarity which had been her stock in trade until he took over the direction of her career. In this long, intricate and often enigmatic melodrama she brilliantly sustained the role of the hunched-over woman in a manner which combined world-weary sophistication with a haunting sense of vulnerability. The resulting film, to which her contribution was so germane, is one of the most memorable things to have emerged from the cinema.

Arletty was born Léonie Bathiat into a family and a caste whose outlook and innate vitality was shaped by the

streets of Paris. Courbevoie may, in these days, have been a drab suburb but its people, artisans, shop keepers, office workers, the odd crook and the occasional prostitute, were intensely aware of themselves as Parisians. Céline, a near contemporary, was from Courbevoie. Her friend the metaphysical satirist Marcel Aymé, brilliantly caught the wit of its inhabitants. In his writings, Edith Piaf evoked their vigorous brand of sentimentality in her songs. Arletty, beautiful and possessed of a somehow uncorrupted street wisdom, remains quintessentially their representative.

The Bathiat family was a large one and Léonie's mother was compelled to take in

washing to help support it even before her husband was killed in a metro accident in 1916. Léonie had to take a job in an armaments factory, but the Bohemian café life of Paris was her natural milieu. It was in one such café that she was spotted by the Cubist painter Paul Gauguin. Entranced by her singular beauty, he sent her to a revue producer. She also picked up work as a model and by the end of the first world war she was earning a living as a chorus girl. She adopted the stage name Arletty, but, for some reason deciding that English was more chic than French, changed the terminal "i" to a "y". She learned to sing and her performances on stage

brought her a wide circle of admirers, drawn as much by the earthy vitality of her character in revue sketches as by her scantly clad form behind the footlights. She was, after all, in her own words, "as thin as a runner bean".

Cinema had at first no use for her. Her great asset, her voice, counted for nothing on the silent screen of those days. Sound remedied that, but the reputation she had made on stage as an essentially light actress, most at home as a prostitute or woman of easy virtue, did not at first go down well in the more serious studios. Nevertheless work eventually came, although her first few films were unmemorable. In the 1930s she worked with

the director Jacques Feyder in *Pension Mimosa* and with Sacha Guitry in *Les Petites de la Couronne* and *Désiré*.

But it was not until 1938 — when she was forty — that she began the collaboration with Marcel Carné which was to shape the rest of her life and ensure her immortality. In *Hôtel du Nord* (1938) she played — ironically in view of her earlier difficulties — as a prostitute. Madame Raymonde, a kind of Mother Courage of her profession, grumbling her way indomitably through a life divided between waiting for custom down by the Canal Saint-Martin and being maltreated by her murderous lover. In *Le Jour se lève* (1939) she played another mistress in a film whose fatalistic and violent mood was heavy with impending war.

Her admirers were by now legion and unrequited. The Aga Khan wooed her immensely from afar but never got beyond dinner *d deus* in the private dining room of Larue's restaurant. Sacha Guitry, too, made a superlative effort and was rewarded with as he ruefully noted, "everlasting friendship". For a long time the most admired woman in Paris seemed to have been Arletty.

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As she riposted when taxed with her apostasy: "My heart is French but my body is international." Nevertheless the climate of Liberation judged such behaviour harshly and and she was charged with collaboration. This charge was subsequently dropped but she spent some time in an internment camp in 1944 to find the offence counted against her when she later tried to get work.

Meanwhile *Les Enfants du Paradis* had appeared, astonishing international audiences that such a marvellous film could have been made under the noses of the German occupiers. By the time Arletty played Garance she was actually 46. It was in a sense both the pinnacle and the end of her film career. Already mature to play romantic leads under the merciless scrutiny of the cameras, she returned to the stage where she found some rewarding roles in the Paris productions of plays such as *A Streetcar Named Desire*. She made a few more films, too, including Carné's *L'Air de Paris* (1954) and a version of Sartre's *Huis Clos*.

But in 1963 she was blinded when she administered some medicine to her eyes, thinking it was eye lotion. Although an operation partially restored her sight it thereafter deteriorated again. Nevertheless the publication of her autobiography, *Je Suis comme Je Suis* at the age of 89 brought her renewed popularity and attention. The book took its title from a verse of one of the songs she had sung in her music hall days, and summed up her attitude to life perfectly.

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# BUSINESS TIMES

SATURDAY JULY 25 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

SPORT  
30-36

## Profile

Michael Stoddart, chairman of the Electra fund management group, can stand criticism and personal teasing. He tells jokes and funny stories against himself. But he will not stand for any questioning of his or Electra's ethics or integrity. He delights customers by always declaring the bottles of Scotch in his suitcase. Page 21

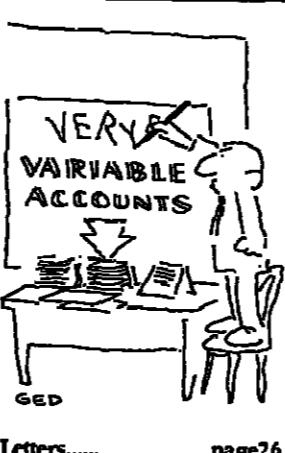


## Reliance rap

Regulators are considering disciplinary action against Reliance Mutual for selling home income plans to 150 retired people. The agent who sold the plans admitted he was 'wrong'. Page 24

## Freelance blues

Self-employed people are finding it difficult to arrange mortgages as criteria are tightened. Lenders deny discrimination but some refuse to base loans on the previous year's accounts. Page 25



Letters page 26

## Fees revealed

Life offices will have to tell investors in pounds and pence how much of their premium will be deducted for charges and expenses when they take out a life assurance policy but regulator Julia Liesching said they would be allowed to use standard charges when the policy is sold. Investors will not be told how much will be deducted in their own case until they ask for it or until they are sent the cancellation notice. The figure given assumes policies are not cashed in early. Page 26



## Best bet

An investment of £5,000 in National Savings or a building society account just before the Crash of 1987 would have provided a better return than even the best performing unit trust. Page 25



## Gay wrongs

Homosexual men are finding it more difficult to buy life cover but insurers could be mistaken in thinking they are the only high risk group. The International Conference of Aids heard this week page 27

## Fixed winners

Fixed rate mortgages are flavour of the month again after the interest rate scares of the last two weeks. Those who took fixed rates three years ago have done better than with a variable rate. Page 23

Canada's choice of Anglo-Italian EH101 challenges Sikorsky's world leadership

# Westland wins share of £2bn helicopter deal

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

CANADA is to buy EH101 helicopters built by Westland Group and Agusta of Italy in a breakthrough £2 billion deal that sets the stage for the aircraft to become a Nato standard.

The Canadian order for 50 helicopters is only the second for EH101 after a contract for 44 from the Royal Navy. It challenges Sikorsky, the American group, in its 30-year role as the world leader in maritime helicopters, and paves the way for a resurgence by Westland, Britain's only helicopter manufacturer which has been in the doldrums ever since 1987 when a row over the company's future lead to the resignation of Michael Heseltine, the then defence secretary.

More than £500 million of manufacturing, training and spares work will accrue to Westland as a result of the Canadian order, with a similar amount going to the company's Italian partner in the EH Industries (EHI) manufacturing consortium.

Electronic components and systems integration work, worth a further £1 billion, will be done by Parmanax, a Canadian subsidiary of American computer group Unisys.

Crucially, the contract includes 15 utility versions of the aircraft fitted out for a search and rescue role as well as 35 combat aircraft. That is the first order for the utility version which EHI is trying to sell to armies worldwide.

Alan Jones, chief executive of Westland, said: "The Anglo-Italian partnership has been strengthened by the Canadian involvement, and it increases the prospects of the EH101 becoming the standard aircraft across Nato."

duce impact of the programme on their balance of payments. Parmanax was systems integrator on the ships from which the maritime helicopters will operate.

The Canadian helicopters will be assembled in Yeovil or Italy alongside machines for the two European navies. Work on the EH101 is divided equally between the partners. Westland is responsible for the rotor and the cockpit; Agusta provides fuselage sections and the gearbox.

Westland is licensed to build the American Black Hawk and Apache attack helicopters, as well as a series of Sikorsky designs, but the EH101 is vital to preserving its independent design capability.

The company claims that the helicopter is the first in the world to be designed to serve three hitherto distinct markets: maritime operations, the military utility role and commercial markets.

Westland believes the exceptional agility needed by the maritime version to land on the deck of a warship in bad weather will help make the machine a winner in other markets. But it has been concerned from the outset to ensure that the design has the necessary adaptability and economy to fit the other roles.

The Canadian order is likely to lead to subcontract work for British aerospace companies. It will also boost GKN, the car parts to pallets group and Westland's biggest shareholder, with a 21 per cent stake.

However, the Canadians chose Parmanax to provide the electronics for their machines in an effort to provide work for Canadian companies and re-



Flying high: Alan Jones, chief executive of Westland, thinks the EH101 could become the Nato standard

## Ottawa decision rebuffs critics

FROM JOHN BEST IN OTTAWA

The Canadian defence department's decision to buy the helicopters goes against critics in Canada who claimed that the purchase was unnecessary.

The highly controversial purchase — the third-largest buy of military equipment in Canadian history — was announced by Marcel Masse, the defence minister, in the Atlantic coast port of Halifax.

In an attempt to spike criticism of the purchase, Masse said: "Canada requires very capable helicopters for its

surface ships, as well as for search and rescue. The EH101 was chosen because it was the only helicopter that meets all our requirements."

Thirty-five of the aircraft will fly anti-submarine surveillance missions from a new fleet of frigates being built in Canada, while 15 will be used for rescue work.

Reports that the Conservative cabinet was getting ready to approve the EH101 purchase caused a furor in the House of Commons last

month. For several days opposition MPs raged that the helicopters were to be used for fighting a Soviet submarine menace that no longer exists. They also argued that the money would better be used to finance day-care facilities, and other social programmes.

The onslaught went hand in hand with an intense last minute lobbying campaign by rival companies. Prominent among them was Boeing, which offered to update the present helicopter fleet at half

the cost of the EH101s.

Mr Masse acknowledged yesterday that "the world has changed a great deal" but added: "At the same time, there have been developments — including the Gulf war, the disintegration of Yugoslavia, periodic ethnic violence in the former Soviet Union, and the proliferation of sophisticated weaponry to unstable parts of the world — that underscore the need to retain flexible, capable armed forces, including maritime forces."

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When "time" was called yesterday, and reflecting the incidence of asserted shares that were later withdrawn, GK's final tally showed that only 2.55 per cent of Morland shares had been won over.

GK's share price fell 39p to 468p, and Morland's 36p to 425p. GK publishes 1992 results on Tuesday. Meanwhile in Oxfordshire, the hens are clucking.

## Second Amstrad finance man quits

BY MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

AMSTRAD, the personal computers to satellite dishes group, dropped its second bombshell on the stock market in two days last night with the news that Peter Thome had resigned as group finance director.

On Thursday, Amstrad had given a warning that group losses for the year to end June 1992, would be "approximately £25 million in excess of previous expectations".

Most analysts interpreted this as a warning that the pre-tax loss would be about £65 million.

On Wednesday, Amstrad had disclosed that Ken Ashcroft, its corporate finance director, was resigning, although he would be taking up the non-executive chairman of Betacom, the loss-making telephone equipment

## Home repossession fall but more people are in arrears

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

MORTGAGE lenders will report next Wednesday that they have repossessed about 4,000 fewer homes in the first six months of this year than they did in the previous six-month period. But the number of people with serious arrears has risen substantially.

The Council of Mortgage Lenders will say that the number of repossession has fallen from a record 38,930 to about 35,000. The reduction is smaller than officials had expected earlier in the year. They had hoped it would be 32,500.

When mortgage rescue schemes were launched in December, it was predicted that they would cut repossession by 40,000 in 1992. It is difficult to estimate what they would have reached without

the help for people under threat of eviction. UBS Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker, has estimated that repossession this year will be 70,000. However, it predicted at the beginning of the year that without schemes the number would be 125,000.

Because lenders are helping people with serious arrears to stay in their homes, the number of families six months or more in arrears has topped 300,000 for the first time. The number has increased by about 40,000 on the previous six months, with those 12 months and more in arrears rising most steeply.

In many cases, this results in the arrears and mortgage amounting to more than the value of the property, which means it is impossible for

those homeowners to trade down or to move. The council estimated last month that 278,000 households had homes worth less than their mortgage. UBS Phillips & Drew says that more than a million homes could be worth less than their mortgage. More have homes worth less than they paid for them.

If the numbers of people 12 months in arrears keep rising, joint ownership schemes or mortgages to rent schemes are expected to increase.

John Wrigglesworth, building society analyst at UBS Phillips & Drew, said mortgage rescue schemes were keeping thousands in their homes. "But in many cases the agony is being prolonged. They will not be able to sell their homes in the end."

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## Brooks Brothers man buttons down retirement

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON  
IN NEW YORK

JOSEPH Mancini smooths the creases across the shoulders of his last customer today after 66 years with Brooks Brothers, the upmarket tailor that is owned by Marks and Spencer.

Mr Mancini, now 80 and Brooks' longest-serving salesman, joined the firm three years before the Wall Street crash of 1929. Laurel & Hardy had just teamed up and model T Fords were parked outside the store on New York's Madison Avenue.

"I feel awful," he said yesterday. "It's going to be so sad. I've had such a good time." Frank Sinatra and



James Stewart figure on the store's client list of 200. Clark Gable tried to shop there "but he was too big, we couldn't fit him", Mr Mancini said. For the past two days, the telephone on Brooks' sixth floor has rung uninterrupted by Good wishes have arrived

by the sackful from California, Florida and England. Senior New York state politicians have sent their regards. "The store gave a party for me last week... and they featured me in a huge blow-up picture in the window," he said. The son of a Brooks Brothers tailor

strike in Brooks's 171-year history but called it off at the last minute. Two generations have grown while Mr Mancini has been getting up regularly at 5.30am and selling suits to what used to be known as the carriage trade. "People are less fussy these days," he says. "Years ago, customers would come in and know exactly what they wanted. But once you've sold them a suit, they're customers for life."

His greatest moment came during the 1965 New York power blackout when the store was evacuated. Mr Mancini remained with a customer, picking out suits by the glow of a cigarette lighter.







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# WEEKEND MONEY

THE TIMES SATURDAY JULY 25 1992

## Clearing a way to raise charges



### COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK  
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

**I**t is good to see that the banking code has made no difference in the way one of the big four treats its credit card customers. Midland decided to change the way it credited payments to accounts a couple of weeks after the code came in.

This means that more people will pay interest but the bank did not think it worth telling the hapless customers of the change, so that they could avoid the punitive interest rates levied when a payment reaches the account one day late. Statements still go out, warning customers to allow seven working days for their cheques to arrive in the post as they have done for the last 20 years. No mention is made of the change from crediting payments to accounts on the day they arrive at the bank to crediting the money when it has cleared through the bank's system four days or so later.

Those customers, who have, over the years, become adept at cutting payments fine so that banks do not receive a penny too much a day too early, and have trusted to the first class post to wing their payments to

the bank in two or three days, are now finding they are charged interest. No explanation is given as to why their payments are credited so late. They blame the Post Office.

Cynical observers might remark that it appears Midland does not trust its customers and expects all their cheques to bounce. It is much more likely that it is just rather pleased with itself for finding a way of charging more customers interest.

Those customers who have kicked up a fuss and asked why on earth it is taking so long for payments to be credited have received refunds. This is hardly the spirit of a code that was intended to make all systems of charging open, easily understood and therefore avoidable.

Those with bills due for payment on August 5 would not dream of sending off payment today to NatWest, Barclays or Lloyds because they do not want to see it credited to

their account on Monday. They prefer to have use of their money for as long as possible. Midland customers should escape charges if they get the cheque in the post today.

It will save a lot of furious calculation as to what the cost of the credit is when their cheque takes five days to clear and they are one day late. The annual percentage rates in the circumstances are astronomical.

If their account is with the Midland they will need to change their pattern of payments if they want to continue to avoid paying interest.

£52.63 an hour. His boss worked on the account for 4.25 hours and charged £391, the equivalent of £2.50 an hour or £10,000 a year.

Barclays declined to say whether the branch was its most expensive.

Tariffs have been bandied around by all the banks and many of the building societies in keeping with the code but they do not detail all these extras.

It might be worth customers taking the trouble to find out what their bank manager charges for his time and for that of his staff.

It is even more irritating for customers to be clobbered with an unexpected bank charge when they have done their research to find out which bank offers the cheapest service.

A Weekend Money reader who called the big four banks and American Express to find out their charges for French francs and travellers

cheques decided to place his order with the local NatWest.

The charges were agreed at two per cent with a minimum of £4.50. But when the cheques were picked up there was an extra charge of £2.25. Oh that's for postage explained the branch. Customers are individually charged for the cost of the bank distributing its cheques.

The idea of detailing this charge when customers asked for a quote had not occurred to them. Once again the bank agreed to rescind the charges when they were spotted.

It is a shame that such important businesses feel that customers should be the last to be told what they will have to pay.

Most of us manage to avoid bank charges by careful maintenance of our accounts. It is therefore all the more galling to fall foul of one the extra charges that whole teams at banks seem to be researching and developing.

Honesty, openness and keeping the customers informed? Maybe one day, but in the meantime we have to keep a close watch.

**It pays home buyers to examine all mortgage options — but beware of pitfalls**

## Take-up of loans at fixed rates surges

By LINDSAY COOK

**F**IXED mortgage rates, which have been ignored by housebuyers since the election, came back into their own this week. The temporary increase in Cheltenham & Gloucester's mortgage rate — and the fear that other lenders would follow it up after four downward moves — worried borrowers.

The C&G has reversed its mortgage increase from today but poor building society savings figures for the first half of the year and fears of a rise in German rates, mean the threat of higher rates lingers.

Certainty of payments for three, five or even 25 years has to be balanced against arrangement fees and any extra insurance sold as part of the package.

The Halifax said: "These loans are always popular at times of interest rate uncertainty." Abbey National said that after a quiet three months for fixed loans, they "really picked up" last week. Nationwide Anglia also reported a need of applicants.

Nationwide Anglia offers three-year, guaranteed-rate mortgages to existing customers and people buying or selling properties through its estate agency. The rate is 8.95 per cent in the first year, rising to 9.95 per cent for the next two. This works out at an annual percentage rate of 11.3 per cent over 25 years.

There is a reservation fee of £250, in addition to the usual application fee. Buildings and contents insurance has to be taken out with Nationwide Anglia. The loans are available on a repayment or endowment basis and free mortgage payment cover is

provided for the first 12 months.

Halifax, the largest mortgage lender, offers loans at 9.95 per cent (APR, 11 per cent) until September 1997. There is an arrangement fee of £250 but no linked service fee to be bought. The terms are available for endowment, pension and personal equity plan loans and for interest-only loans above £100,000.

Anyone redeeming the mortgage before October next year has to pay the equivalent of five monthly payments.

During the next year, the cost is four payments and during the last three years it is three.

Abbey National has mortgages fixed at 10.45 per cent over five years. This is an APR of 11.3 per cent for endowment loans and 11.4 per cent for repayment ones. There is an administration fee of £180.

Borrowers who cash in the loans before October next year pay 120 days' interest over

the next four years. This penalty is 90 days' interest. Cheltenham & Gloucester has fixed-rate mortgages at 9.6 per cent over two years. The application fee is £150 but there is no compulsory insurance or other services.

The mortgages can be taken as repayment or interest-only. Although the rate is attractive, the package offered since July 2 has not been as popular as the society's five-year fixes. Anyone paying off the loan



within three years is charged three months' gross interest. People borrowing at fixed rates are gambling that variable mortgage rates will not undercut them during the period. It might be annoying, three years on, to be paying more than neighbours or colleagues but fixes that end up

expensive can still save money. Leeds Permanent borrowers who took its 12.75 per cent fixed rate in September 1989 will soon have their rate cut by two percentage

points to 10.65 per cent when the three years finishes.

They should be pleased with an arrangement that has saved them hundreds of pounds. Someone taking out a £50,000 loan at the fixed rate would by mid-June have paid £17,535. With a variable loan, they would have paid £18,612. With three more payments at

12.75 per cent, they will be more than £800 in pocket when the loan is completed.

The variable rate was 13.45 per cent when the fix was offered and climbed to 15.4

per cent in the next six months before starting to fall again months later. Since July last year, those with this particular fixed-rate mortgage have been paying more than variable-rate borrowers.

The previous Leeds fix was at 12.25 per cent and was offered in March 1989. Borrowers who took out £50,000 loans paid £2,248 less over the three years than those with variable-rate loans.

The Leeds offers no short-term fixed rates at the moment but expects to launch a fixed and a capped mortgage next month. It does have a 20- or 25-year fix at 11.25 per cent (APR, 11.9 per cent). The arrangement fee is £250 and the early redemption penalty is between one and six months' interest, depending on how early in the term the loan is paid off.

## Rapid mortgage to beat stamp duty

**H**OMEBUYERS only just realising that the stamp duty threshold will return to £30,000 from £250,000 on August 19 are being offered a quick mortgage application scheme by the Yorkshire Building Society, which is headed by Derek Roberts (Lindsay Cook writes).

It is reminiscent of those heady days before the bubble burst, when valuers had car machines to get the information back to the lenders so that they could make instant mortgage offers.

Customers making applications on a weekday before 10am will receive a mortgage offer the following day, subject to the property and their references passing muster. The Mortgage Rapide system costs £100 but typically will save a homebuyer £600 if they avoid stamp duty.

The tax is charged at 1 per cent on properties sold for more than £250,000 currently but will be charged on properties above £30,000 from August 19. The average property costs about £60,000 and from late August will incur a £600 bill.

The removal of stamp duty from all but the most expensive properties was intended by the government to boost the housing market. So far there has been no evidence of that happening.

Mortgage Rapide is available on loans up to 95 per cent of the purchase price or valuation, whichever is the lower. The property must be a private dwelling for owner occupation. The maximum that can be borrowed is £100,000.

Details of the service are available on 0800 378836.



## Borrowers warned on hidden cost catches

By OUR MONEY EDITOR

**M**MORTGAGES at unusually low rates of interest are being offered in advertisements and leaflets. The Office of Fair Trading this week warned borrowers to be wary. "Mortgage interest rates are set by the market," it said. "If one is significantly lower, you need to question why. There may be a hidden catch or some interest may be deferred."

The Council of Mortgage Lenders has received reports of several mortgage schemes at rates far lower than its members can match. A spokeswoman said: "If a rate is well below that at which our members can raise funds, you have to wonder how small organisations can make such offers."

One such scheme is offered by Hammer Enterprises, in north London. It says it has mortgages fixed at 4.5 per cent (APR 5.62 per cent) for the full 25-year term. Remort-

gages are offered at 6.5 per cent and non-status loans at 7.1 per cent.

Borrowers are urged to telephone an 0891 number, where they can listen to details of mortgages on offer and the valuation scheme being offered.

Mike Hammer, who identified himself as a director of Hammer Enterprises plc, said there was a £350 administration fee, which was not refundable if no loan was granted.

Applicants had to put down a 10 per cent deposit for a minimum of three months before they were considered. This earned no interest during the period and was refunded if a mortgage was not offered. Mr Hammer said the company would "look into" the possibility of paying interest on the money in that event. He said the company, which had operated for 16

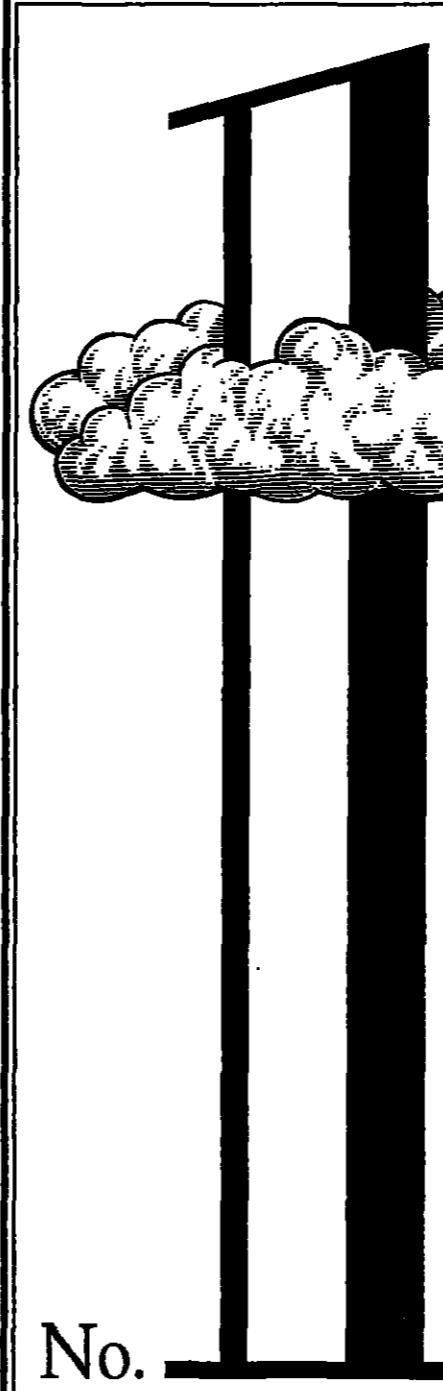
years, began making cheap loans available at the beginning of the year.

"Building societies and banks offer employees subsidised mortgages. We are going one stage further and offering them to the general public," he added.

The company invested its own funds in other currencies to earn 27 per cent a year, Mr Hammer said. It had decided "as a service to the public" to use this money to provide mortgages. Under the scheme, clients became shareholders. Mr Hammer said there had been hundreds of enquiries for the loans.

The Office of Fair Trading said it had issued a credit licence in 1978 in the name of a Michael Hammer, operating as a sole trader at a nearby address. This licence would not allow him to trade as a plc, a spokesman said.

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\*Source: Merton, figures to 13 July 1992, offer to bid, income reinvested.

By SARA MCCONNELL

**M**ANY homebuyers will have heaved a sigh of relief that they narrowly avoided having to pay more for their loans this week. Now they will be keeping their fingers crossed that rates continue on the downward path they started at the end of 1990, when rates fell from 15.4 per cent to today's 10.7 per cent.

However, those who took out buildings and contents insurance with their mortgage and who pay their insurance premiums at the same time as their mortgage could find their monthly payments have not fallen as much as they expected. In some cases, the last fall in rates, from 10.95 per cent to 10.65 per cent, coincided with a sharp increase in insurance premiums so that monthly payments went up instead of down. Huge increases in claims, particularly for subsidence and storm damage on buildings and theft on contents, have meant corresponding rises in premiums of about £30 a month in the highest risk areas.

A borrower with the Halifax building society, not on the society's annual review scheme, who took out a



Brokers claim problem lies with presentation of accounts a year late

## Societies set tough criteria on loans to self-employed

BY SHIRLEY DAVENPORT

THE self-employed are finding it tougher to arrange mortgages as lenders tighten their lending criteria.

Although lenders deny discrimination, mortgage brokers claim the usual custom of the self-employed presenting their accounts a year late is a problem.

In the boom years it was often possible for the self-employed to borrow money by declaring income without producing accounts, and pay higher interest rates into the bargain. However, the recession forced many of these borrowers into debt, unable to make their loan repayments.

A significant number of people made redundant in the last year have decided to become consultants or set up their own businesses. Many face difficulties if they try to sell their home to move to a smaller one, or if they try to remortgage to

raise money for their business. If accounts are not up to date, lenders will be nervous about what has happened in the past 18 months," said Ian Darby at John Charcol. "They will assume that most businesses have had a bad year, making them look less impressive than their accounts for the year before.

"In the 1980s, lenders regarded the income recorded by a self-employed person as their minimum earnings, and loans were often granted on the basis of a fairly brief

accountant's letter." Most lenders now want to see three years of balance sheets and accounts which in many cases are not up to date.

"At best, they are asking for an accountant's detailed analysis of the person's circumstances and prospects," said Mr Darby.

The self-employed who can demonstrate consistent growth in income are in the clear. But those whose income declined in the past two years may have difficulty in arranging a mortgage.

"Lots of people are being turned down for mortgages," said Mike Walters of the broker. "Even when all the written criteria are fulfilled

and the mortgage is approved by one underwriter, another underwriter may make a second check and refuse the mortgage."

Lenders agree that before the recession their lending criteria tended to be more lenient.

Nationwide, which once offered two-and-a-half times income for home loans, now concentrates on a borrower's outgoings before deciding how much to lend.

"Basically, lenders want to be sure that borrowers can afford the mortgage after all their other outgoings," said the Halifax.

"The self-employed should not have a problem if they have been trading for three years and can offer enough information to show the security of their business is consistent.

"If their income has gone down recently, we would ask their accountant for an explanation before making a decision."

Abbey National will settle for two years' accounts and an accountant's projection.

"We do not specifically discriminate against the self-employed, but we look at their accounts more carefully than in the past and require them to fill in a budget planner," said a spokeswoman. She admitted that at one time budget planners were only used in marginal cases.

"All lenders are being more careful about lending at the moment. We owe it to our



customers and shareholders to be prudent.

"Instead of accepting the income of a borrower, there is much more analysis of balance sheets and accounts than before. If someone submitted accounts which were not prepared by a qualified accountant, their application for a

loan would probably be refused," the Abbey spokesman said.

There is growing concern that the accounts of many self-employed are prepared by unqualified people.

"Some self-employed people are being duped into thinking they are paying a qualified

accountant, who may just be a book-keeper attaching a string of initials after his name, and charging an astronomical fee," said Mike Walters.

"It may only come to light when a mortgage application is thrown out because the lender found the accountant is not genuinely qualified."

## National Savings prove better than unit trusts

BY SARA McCONNELL

NATIONAL Savings, in the news this week for giving building societies a run for their money, has also provided something of a challenge to the unit trust industry over the last five years.

Investors who put up to £5,000 in National Savings' index-linked or fixed interest savings certificates just before the 1987 crash and who cash them in as they mature this year could find that their return is more than double what they would have got if the same money had been invested in a unit trust.

Nearly 35,000 people hold either Fourth Issue Index linked savings certificates or 52nd Issue Fixed Interest certificates which will mature next month. National Savings Fourth Issue Index linked certificates bought in July 1987 are maturing now. A total of £16 million was invested in July 1987 and £17.5 million came in the next month. With inflation standing at 4.4 per cent in both months but predicted to rise, the certificates offered a safe return of 5.48 per cent tax free. Anyone who invested the maximum of £5,000 in the

performing sector, at the beginning of August 1987 it would have grown to an average of £6,668 by the beginning of July this year, according to statistics from Micropal. Best performer in this sector was Abbey Capital Reserve, worth £7,929. By contrast, an investment in Invesco Preference Shares Trust would be worth £5,096.95.

Those with money in the most volatile sector, commodity and energy, would have come badly unstuck, as their investment would have been worth an average of just £2,696.30, a fall of nearly 50 per cent. A £5,000 investment with the worst performer, Waverley Australasian Gold, would be worth just £741.31.

Paul Barnes, at Micropal, said: "Markets in general have been very volatile over this time and if you have an investment in a risky fund like Australasian or Commodity and Energy, there are extreme variations." More cautious investors with £1,000 to invest five years ago would also have done better to put their money in National Savings or the building society.



Barnes: volatile times

certificates on July 1, 1987 would have seen their holding grow to £8,241, a rise of 64.8 per cent. National Savings

Certificates held for five years qualify for the maximum return of inflation plus 4.04 per cent but any not cashed in when the five years are up will only earn a miserly 0.5 per cent above inflation — 4.4 per cent currently.

If the £5,000 had been invested in a gilts and fixed income unit trust, the best

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£25,000+	10.8%	10.07%
£50,000+	11.0%	10.07%

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## Life insurance clients to be told of charges

By SARA MCCONNELL

INVESTORS will be able to find out how much of their life assurance premiums go in charges and expenses instead of being invested, if new rules published this week are implemented. However, any figure given for charges could be misleading because it assumes people do not cash in their policy early, when more goes in expenses.

Under new rules published simultaneously by the Securities and Investments Board and the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation, life offices will have to make sure their salesmen supply potential policyholders with a document detailing the "key features" of the policy. This must be handed over before a proposal form is signed. Companies must tell investors how much of their premiums will be deducted for charges and expenses, including commission.

The same calculation must also be shown as a percentage reduction in the investment return on the policy. The figure life offices will have to



Sceptical: Julia Liesching has doubts on growth rates

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give is a standard one, not directly related to a policyholder's own circumstances.

The wording companies will have to use is: "Not all of your money will be used to provide you with benefits under the policy. As with other savings contracts, some of your money will go to meet our expenses. These include such things as marketing, administration and investment management costs."

It adds: "The expenses are higher in the early years but if you held your policy for the full 5 years and if each year we achieved an investment return of 8% then on average the overall effect of our current expenses would be about the same as if you had deducted 40 pence from every pound you had paid us." Companies will be able to assume an investment return of 9 per cent a year to work out how much will actually be invested after charges and expenses have

been deducted. Julia Liesching, Lutro's chief policy and administration officer, said that if companies used their own growth rates it would be difficult to know whether they were using comparable figures.

She rejected the idea that the "pence in the pound" expenses deduction was misleading because it did not show that expenses were higher in the early years of the policy. "This information should be preceded by a table of surrender values showing how much investors will lose if they cash in the policy in the first five years," she said.

Investors will get a breakdown of how much they will have to pay in charges in their specific case either with the cancellation notice, or before, if they ask for it. However, there will be no way to compare the expenses of different life offices except if investors shop around.

Investors will get a breakdown of how much they will have to pay in charges in their specific case either with the cancellation notice, or before, if they ask for it. However, there will be no way to compare the expenses of different life offices except if investors shop around.

Also, we have a wide range of methods of payment, designed to meet the needs of our customers. These include the gas payment plan, with the ability for customers to make payments on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis. This method is designed to spread the cost of gas usage evenly through the year, and removes the worry of large winter bills.

Under the monthly gas payment plan, a customer can select from a range of payment dates the one which suits them best. After the end of August, we will be able to offer our customers a wider selection of payment dates.

I hope this letter answers questions raised regarding direct debits. I will be pleased to hear from any readers who would like to contribute their views on payment methods available through British Gas South Eastern and from anyone wishing to find out more about gas payment schemes. Please write to me at the address below.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER BARLEY,  
Customer Relations Manager,  
British Gas (South Eastern),  
Segas House,  
Katharine Street,  
Croydon.

### LETTERS

#### More frank words over franc deals

From Mr Peter Marsh

Sir, Following my letter to you last week (Frank words over franc deals) I decided to order my French franc notes and travellers' cheques through my local National Westminster branch in Mortimer.

I picked up the currency and cheques and found that for the currency I was charged 3.5 per cent and the cheques 2 per cent commission. These were the figures I had expected, having previously checked what the charges would be. But what was this "charge 2.25" I had on my advice slip for the cheques?

I rang the branch to ask again for the charges to buy travellers' cheques. Two per cent with a minimum of £4.50 I was told. When asked about the £2.25 charges I was not

given an immediate answer. I was told eventually that I, the customer, had to pay for the postage of these cheques from another branch. This little incidental payment I had not been told about on two previous occasions. What a wonderful moneysaver for the bank.

Like many institutions, banks seem to be becoming very economical with the truth when dealing with the public about their charges. Have they anything to be embarrassed about or wish to hide?

After reviewing the situation my bank manager has decided to refund the commission and charges. Another rip off has been averted.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER MARSH,  
Church Cottage,  
Sulhamstead Abbotts,  
Reading, Berks.

#### British Gas defends quarterly direct debits

From Mr Peter Barley

rightly or monthly basis. This method is designed to spread the cost of gas usage evenly through the year, and removes the worry of large winter bills.

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PETER BARLEY,  
Customer Relations Manager,  
British Gas (South Eastern),  
Segas House,  
Katharine Street,  
Croydon.

#### Insurance rates provoke anger

From Mr Stewart Campbell

Sir, Letters on house insurance reminded me to write to you about the high cost of being realistic about house contents values.

Keen rates are quoted for what I take to be average values. For example a three-bedroom house is taken to have contents value at £30,000. However, my wife and I recently valued our contents at £50,000 — new for old. When we asked for insurance to this value, our annual premium increased from £93 to £123! An increase in premium of 247 per cent for an increase in insured value of only 66 per cent is that fair?

Yours faithfully,  
STEWART CAMPBELL,  
4 Dovecot Loan,  
Edinburgh.

From Mr Alan Kennard

Sir, Following Sara McConnell's recent comments about increases in household insurances, you might be interested in my own example.

In July 1991, I transferred my contents and buildings insurance to the Norwich Union under their 55-plus policy — for those aged 55 and over — at an annual premium of £457.92. I have just received the renewal notice for 1992-3, which calls for a premium of £721.14, a 57 per cent increase. No claim has been made under this policy.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN KENNARD,  
Alan Kennard Associates,  
New House,  
67 Hutton Garden,  
EC1.

Don't bring it in...  
it'll increase  
the contents  
premium  
by 300%



#### INVESTMENT RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
<b>BANKS</b>						
Ordinary Dep A/c:	2.63	2.66	2.12	none/none	7 day	
Typical						
First Term Deposits:						
Barclays	6.04	6.04	5.55	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-428 1567
HSBC	6.05	6.06	5.58	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-428 1567
Lloyds	6.05	6.05	4.94	2,500-50,000	1 mth	Local Branch
National	6.05	6.05	5.55	25,000-50,000	3 mth	0742 526265
NatWest	7.05	7.08	5.95	10,000-50,000	3 mth	0742 526265
	6.55	6.58	5.40	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-725 1000
	6.75	6.75	5.40	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-725 1000

#### HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS

	Bank of	Ordinary NBC	6.49	6.68	5.34	2,500	none	031-442 7777
Barclays	6.49	6.51	4.78			2,500+	none	0804 252891
Co-operative	1.50	1.51	1.21			1,000+	none	071 625 6543
Gloucester	4.88	4.88	3.90			1,000+	none	0223 253272
Lloyds	1.50	1.51	1.21			2,000+	none	0742 526265
NatWest	4.44	4.46	3.59			2,000+	none	0742 526265
Scot. Provident	4.31	4.38	3.50			500+	none	0800 200 400
Special Reserve	5.44	5.55	4.44			2,500	none	031 566 8555
TSB Bank	4.31	4.31	3.45			2,000+	none	071 600 8000
HSBC								

#### BUILDING SOCIETIES

	Ordinary Share	A/c	2.00	1.50	1.20	250+	none
Best buy — largest soccs:							
Bradford & Bingley	7.20	7.20	5.75			1,000 min	Postal
Bristol & West	7.54	7.54	5.27			2,000 min	Postal
Northern Rock	7.55	7.55	5.15			40,000 min	30 day
St. Pancras	6.05	6.05	5.45			50,000 min	60 day
Teachers	6.15	6.15	5.55			1,000 min	60 day
Bradford & Bingley	6.16	6.16	5.65			30,000 min	1 year
Best buy — all soccs:							
Bradford & Bingley	7.20	7.20	5.24			1,000 min	Postal
Northern Rock	7.55	7.55	5.15			40,000 min	30 day
St. Pancras	6.05	6.05	5.45			50,000 min	60 day
Teachers	6.15	6.15	5.55			1,000 min	60 day
Bradford & Bingley	6.16	6.16	5.65			30,000 min	1 year

#### CASH/CHECK ACCOUNTS

	Ordinary A/c	2.00	1.50	1.20	50 min.	Postal
Best buy — largest soccs:						
Bradford & Bingley	7.20	7.20	5.75			1,000 min
Bristol & West	7.54	7.54	5.27			2,000 min
Northern Rock	7.55	7.55	5.15			40,000 min
St. Pancras	6.05	6.05	5.45			50,000 min
Teachers	6.15	6.15	5.55			1,000 min
Bradford & Bingley	6.16	6.16				

# Homosexuals looking for life quotes face problems

**H**omosexual men are finding it increasingly hard to buy life insurance cover but insurers could find they are behind the times in perceiving gay men to be the only high-risk group.

The eighth International Conference of Aids, held in Amsterdam this week, was told that, in most places, the disease had moved out of the original high-risk groups and that, since the beginning of this year, nearly half of the one million new cases had been women.

Insurers are in many cases reluctant even to quote for life assurance for gay men, even if they are in a long-term relationship. Of more than 20 companies asked to supply a quotation for a gay man, only seven gave quotes, and some were reluctant.

According to the Association of British Insurers, life offices do not operate blanket exclusions and will treat each case on its merits. John Wagstaff, of the ABI's insurance council, says: "I accept there will be additional premiums, but most homosexuals would be able to get cover." Ivan

**Insurance companies' attitudes are different from the industry's official policy, says Jill Insley**

Massow, a financial adviser who specialises in helping gay clients, disagrees. "Insurance companies, when talking to the press say they will insure gays, but the truth is they don't," he says.

Alastair Butt, a consultant with Brooks Macdonald Gayer, the independent financial adviser, draws similar conclusions from his experience. Mr Butt has been trying to arrange life insurance and dread disease cover for a homosexual client, a professional man who is currently single but who previously had a long-term relationship.

Scottish Amicable and Scottish Prudential have turned the client down for life insurance, and Abbey Life and Prudential have refused him dread disease cover.

Mr Butt says: "I can't think of instances where gay men get loaded premiums. They just get turned down." The

table illustrates some of the difficulties. Homosexuals in a steady relationship may be able to obtain cover, albeit at more expensive premium rates. But anyone without a permanent partner, particularly those suspected of leading promiscuous lifestyles will face grave difficulties arranging insurance.

**S**ome companies automatically reject applications from homosexuals if they are so identified before the initial quotation stage. Zurich Life's chief underwriter Ray Bone says: "If we know a person is gay prior to quotation, we don't quote. If as a result of routine normal underwriting we learn that an applicant is homosexual, we could quote, and we could decline."

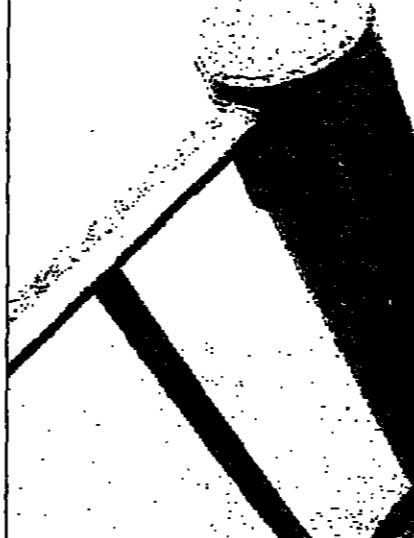
Some people may be tempted to give untruthful answers

to the questions on the insurance proposal form. Although this might seem to provide an answer to the immediate problem of obtaining insurance cover, it is ill-advised because it makes it easy for the insurance company to refuse to pay out in the event of death, even if the death is unrelated to Aids.

Richard Legg, a gay man who recently launched Life Benefits Resources, a company which helps terminally ill people to sell their life policies, would prefer to see insurance companies charge homosexual men more than refuse to insure them. He says: "My own experience tells me that a gay man at this point in time has a rough time trying to get life insurance."

The Terrence Higgins Trust is concerned that it is assumed that all homosexuals are promiscuous. Peter Roth, chairman of the trust's insurance working party, says: "Our basic concern is that insurance companies should approach life underwriting on the basis of individual behaviour, rather than on membership of any group."

Some gay men are burdened with heavily loaded



Ivan Massow: Insurance companies, when talking to the press say they will insure gays, but the truth is they don't

premiums even though their sex lives may be less promiscuous than that of heterosexuals with cheaper insurance premiums. Mr Butt would like to see more insurers offering policies with Aids exclusion clauses, stipulating that they will not pay out in the event of Aids-related death. "My clients would rather have such an exclusion and be able to have

such cover." Mr Massow agrees. "I would relish more Aids exclusion policies because so many of my clients know they are going to stay HIV negative," he says adding that gays are aware of the threat of Aids.

Commercial Union offers life insurance with an Aids exclusion clause. Its Select Term is less expensive than

ordinary life insurance, but is still subject to strict underwriting which may exclude homosexual applicants.

Mr Wagstaff says that such Aids exclusion policies might seem the simple answer, but in practice they present difficulties.

The policies cannot be used as security for a mortgage, and there is still scope for argument over the true

cause of death. Aids leaves the body vulnerable to attack from other diseases, but is rarely recorded as the cause of death itself, which can cause problems when insurance companies decide whether to pay out.

Gays face fewer difficulties when taking out endowment savings policies which include an element of insurance.

Term assurance for male non-smoker who will be 30 on next birthday, tested HIV negative. The sum assured is £50,000 with premiums paid on a monthly basis.					
COMPANY	MARRIED heterosexual	SINGLE heterosexual	GAY WITH ONE GAY WITH FIVE permanent partners or more per year	Permanent partner	partner or more per year
Cannon Lincoln	£19.65	£13.65	£26.15	decline	
General Portfolio	£10	£10	£20.83	decline	
GRE	£13.43	£13.43	£22.57	decline	
Norwich Union	£13.70	£13.70	£22.70	£48.70	
*Premium Life	£9.34	£9.34	£20.80	decline	
Prudential	£12	£12	£20	decline	
Zurich Life	From min £11.85	From min £24.72	From min £24.72	to max £54.27	
Zurich Life	to max £13.25				

\* Premium for policy renewable after ten years.  
NB. Figures based on limited information. All the offices quoted say they would underwrite each application on an individual basis taking medical examinations and lifestyle questionnaires into consideration.

## Investor confidence takes another knock

By LIZ DOLAN

STOCK MARKET uncertainty has prompted a fall in investor confidence for the second month running, according to the latest monthly figures from Pearl, the insurance company.

The Pearl investor confidence index, which is compiled during the first half of each month, fell 6.6 this month, after a 7.8 decline in June. This means that the index, which started at 100 in March last year, has fallen to 85.2 from the 14-month high of 99.6 that was achieved in the post-election euphoria of early May.

The fall in confidence has been most pronounced among company directors and people in social categories A and B, traditionally per-

cived as the most accurate bellwethers of investment performance. Company directors who expect the market to be higher in a year's time fell from 59 per cent to 39 per cent over the month, the lowest level recorded since the index started. ABIs expecting an improvement fell from 47 per cent in June to 38 per cent.

People in the lowest socio-economic categories tend to be more stable in their attitudes to investment, possibly because they have less day to day awareness of prevailing trends.

Confidence among manual workers fell only 3 percentage points in July, to 24 per cent. Martin Fox, Pearl's general manager of marketing, said the results showed that residual optimism following the general election had been premature.

Despite the general reservations expressed about the health of the stock market, there has been no decline in the number of people planning to invest in equity-related products. Seventeen per cent of those questioned intend to invest directly in shares over the next year. This is the same level as in May and one percentage point higher than in May.

The number of people planning to invest in personal equity plans has remained constant at 7 per cent in all three months. In the case of unit trusts, 6 per cent of those questioned now plan to invest in them, a 50 per cent increase on June's 4 per cent and one percentage point higher than in May.

However, more than twice as many people expect to buy Exempt Special Savings Plans (15 per cent) than to buy a PEP, a unit trust, or an investment trust (6 per cent). Investment bonds also increased in popularity, rising from 6 per cent in May and 4 per cent in June to 8 per cent this month, although this is probably related to National Savings' successful launch on July 7 of the first option bond.

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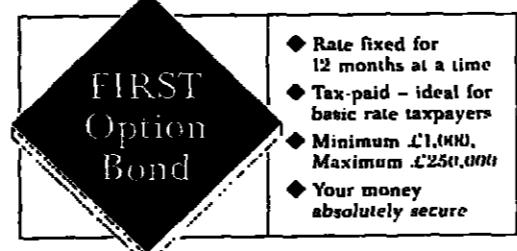
be crossed and made payable to "NATIONAL SAVINGS (FIRST OPTION BONDS)" - using CAPITAL letters for

this part of the cheque. Please write your name and address on the back of your cheque. Post your completed application form and cheque to National Savings (FIRST Option Bonds), Freepost GW3276, Glasgow G58 1BR. Or, to ensure rapid delivery attach a first class stamp.

If, before applying, you would like a leaflet and prospectus phone us free on 0800 88 11 88 between 9am and 9pm, seven days a week.

Or, from 28 July, you can pick them up at your Post Office.

NATIONAL SAVINGS



FIRST Option Bonds are sold subject to the terms of the prospectus. They may only be purchased by postal application.

When we receive your newspaper application and cheque we will send you your FIRST Option Bond together with a prospectus, normally within two weeks. If on receiving the bond and prospectus you wish to cancel your application, tell us within 28 days and we will refund your money. No interest is payable on a cancelled purchase. Please note that the 28 days option to cancel applies only to purchases made by newspaper applications.

At each anniversary of purchase we will write and tell you the guaranteed rate for the following 12 months. You then have the option of leaving your money invested for a further 12 months, in which case you need take no action. Or, if you wish, you can cash in your bond early. For further information on early repayment, at an anniversary date, if you cash in before the last anniversary date you will be repaid the most recent anniversary value of your bond plus net interest at half the fixed rate for the period from the last anniversary. No interest is earned on repayments before the first anniversary.

The guaranteed gross interest for the first 12 months you hold your bond is currently 9.67%, which becomes 7.25% after deduction of tax at the basic rate (currently 25%). Higher rate taxpayers will need to pay whatever additional tax is due. If you are a non-taxpayer or pay tax at a lower rate than the basic rate you can apply to your tax office for a refund.

Any individual bond with a value which does not fall below £20,000 between the date of purchase and the first anniversary will earn a bonus of 0.4% gross (0.3% net). Higher rate taxpayers will need to pay whatever additional tax is due. If you are a non-taxpayer or pay tax at a lower rate than the basic rate you can apply to your tax office for a refund.

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1 I/We apply for a bond (subject to the terms of the relevant prospectus) to the value of £  (Minimum purchase £1,000) For National Savings use only

Please use CAPITAL letters

2 Surname  (Mr Mrs Miss Ms)

All forenames

Address

Postcode  Day Month Year

Date of birth

If bond is to be held jointly with one other person please also complete section 3.

3 Surname  (Mr Mrs Miss Ms)

All forenames

Address

Postcode  Day Month Year

Date of birth

For National Savings use only

Signature(s)

Date  Daytime telephone number (useful if there is a query)

TM 653 This form cannot be used to open a trust holding. Please write to FIRST Option Bonds, National Savings, Glasgow G58 1BR



## Portfolio

### PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight day price movement to your name and add the price of your name to the price for the week and check this against the market value figure on this page. If it matches then you have won the weekly prize or a share of the total weekly prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of the card. If you have not won, follow the claim procedure on the back of the card. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Mirax Gp.	Newspaper, Pub.		100	100	100
2	Unigate	Foods		100	100	100
3	Blue Circle	Building, Rds		100	100	100
4	Axa H	Industrial		100	100	100
5	McCurdy & S	Building, Rds		100	100	100
6	Log March Sec	Property		100	100	100
7	Seaguard	Industrial		100	100	100
8	Stuttle Speak	Chem. Plas		100	100	100
9	Gratby	Electrical		100	100	100
10	Sears	Drapery, Sts		100	100	100
11	Mowden (J)	Building, Rds		100	100	100
12	Wair	Industrial		100	100	100
13	Hillbrow	Foods		100	100	100
14	Marshall	Building, Rds		100	100	100
15	RHM	Foods		100	100	100
16	Ranger	Oil, Gas		100	100	100
17	Smart (J)	Building, Rds		100	100	100
18	Airbus	Leisure		100	100	100
19	Vesper Thomy	Industrial		100	100	100
20	TSB	Bank, Disc.		100	100	100
21	Renold	Chem. Plas		100	100	100
22	Lonrho	Industrial		100	100	100
23	Petrol Pet	Oil, Gas		100	100	100
24	Mays	Electrical		100	100	100
25	Sandt	Paper, Print		100	100	100
26	Rockit Colm	Industrial		100	100	100
27	Kingfisher	Drapery, Sts		100	100	100
28	APV	Industrial		100	100	100
29	Jacques Vert	Drapery, Sts		100	100	100
30	NFC	Transport		100	100	100
31	Cable Wires	Electrical		100	100	100
32	MTL Int	Electrical		100	100	100
33	News Corp	Newspaper, Pub.		100	100	100
34	Black Arrow	Industrial		100	100	100
35	Amersham	Chem. Plas		100	100	100
36	Morris Ashby	Industrial		100	100	100
37	Spring Ram	Industrial		100	100	100
38	Norbin	Electrical		100	100	100
39	Enterprise	Oil, Gas		100	100	100
40	Bricks	Property		100	100	100
41	UniChem	Industrial		100	100	100
42	Datas	Electrical		100	100	100
43	Proton Alex	Industrial		100	100	100
44	Argus Grp	Paper, Print		100	100	100

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Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend					
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					Weekly Total

Mr Stuart Perrin, of Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, won the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum yesterday.

1992	High Low Company	Price	Net Yld	P/E
1	Albert N	100	100	100
2	Albion (A)	100	100	100
3	Albion New Z	100	100	100
4	Albion (A) New	100	100	100
5	Albion (A) New L	100	100	100
6	Albion (A) New M	100	100	100
7	Albion (A) New S	100	100	100
8	Albion (A) New T	100	100	100
9	Albion (A) New V	100	100	100
10	Albion (A) New W	100	100	100
11	Albion (A) New X	100	100	100
12	Albion (A) New Y	100	100	100
13	Albion (A) New Z	100	100	100
14	Albion (A) New A	100	100	100
15	Albion (A) New B	100	100	100
16	Albion (A) New C	100	100	100
17	Albion (A) New D	100	100	100
18	Albion (A) New E	100	100	100
19	Albion (A) New F	100	100	100
20	Albion (A) New G	100	100	100
21	Albion (A) New H	100	100	100
22	Albion (A) New I	100	100	100
23	Albion (A) New J	100	100	100
24	Albion (A) New K	100	100	100
25	Albion (A) New L	100	100	100
26	Albion (A) New M	100	100	100
27	Albion (A) New N	100	100	100
28	Albion (A) New O	100	100	100
29	Albion (A) New P	100	100	100
30	Albion (A) New Q	100	100	100
31	Albion (A) New R	100	100	100
32	Albion (A) New S	100	100	100
33	Albion (A) New T	100	100	100
34	Albion (A) New U	100	100	100
35	Albion (A) New V	100	100	100
36	Albion (A) New W	100	100	100
37	Albion (A) New X	100	100	100
38	Albion (A) New Y	100	100	100
39	Albion (A) New Z	100	100	100
40	Albion (A) New A	100	100	100
41	Albion (A) New B	100	100	100
42	Albion (A) New C	100	100	100
43	Albion (A) New D	100	100	100
44	Albion (A) New E	100	100	100
45	Albion (A) New F	100	100	100
46	Albion (A) New G	100	100	100
47	Albion (A) New H	100	100	100
48	Albion (A) New I	100	100	100
49	Albion (A) New J	100	100	100
50	Albion (A) New K	100	100	100
51	Albion (A) New L	100	100	100
52	Albion (A) New M	100	100	100
53	Albion (A) New N	100	100	100
54	Albion (A) New O	100	100	100
55	Albion (A) New P	100	100	100
56	Albion (A) New Q	100	100	100
57	Albion (A) New R	100	100	100
58	Albion (A) New S	100	100	100
59	Albion (A) New T	100	100	100
60	Albion (A) New U	100	100	100
61	Albion (A) New V	100	100	100
62	Albion (A) New W	100	100	100
63	Albion (A) New X	100	100	100
64	Albion (A) New Y	100	100	100
65	Albion (A) New Z	100	100	100
66	Albion (A) New A	100	100	100
67	Albion (A) New B	100	100	100
68	Albion (A) New C	100	100	100
69	Albion (A) New D	100	100	100
70	Albion (A) New E	100	100	100
71	Albion (A) New F	100	100	100
72	Albion (A) New G	100	100	100
73	Albion (A) New H	100	100	100
74	Albion (A) New I	100	100	100
75	Albion (A) New J	100	100	100
76	Albion (A) New K	100	100	100
77	Albion (A) New L	100	100	100
78	Albion (A) New M	100	100	100
79	Albion (A) New N	100	100	100
80	Albion (A) New O	100	100	100
81	Albion (A) New P	100	100	100
82	Albion (			



# Saddlers' Hall to master juniors

**SADDLERS' Hall** can give Willie Carson his fifth victory in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot today, the Scot having been successful previously on *Troy*, *Ela-Man-Mou*, *Petoski* and *Nashwan*.

For Michael Stoute, the trainer of Saddlers' Hall, it would represent a second sweet taste on this particular occasion following Shergar's victory 12 years ago.

Before the season, Stoute and Lord Weinstein the principal owner of Saddlers' Hall, said that he would have to improve on his three-year-old form to win a race of this nature.

But both men were also confident that he would make that improvement, primarily because he was such a late foal.

That he has is borne out by his record this season which now reads four victories from four attempts.

A rough measure of that

## MANDARIN

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

advance can be gleaned by looking at the corresponding race 12 months ago when Saddlers' Hall could only manage sixth place behind, among others, Rock Hopper, Termon and Sapienza, three of his rivals now.

Yet when he won the Coronation Cup at Epsom at the beginning of June, Saddlers' Hall beat those very three.

After a well-deserved break, he enjoyed a perfect preparatory race for today's test when he won the Princess of Wales' Stakes at Newmarket.

That performance was all the more meritorious because he broke the track record for a mile and a half on the July course when conditions were not made for records.

As realistic as ever Stoute, who will also be represented

by the Eclipse Stakes second Opera House and the Hardwicke winner Rock Hopper, nominates the Irish Derby winner St Jovite as the one that Saddlers' Hall has to beat.

Even after making every allowance for the fact that our Derby winner Dr Devious was probably below par on the Currach and already sickening with the virus which was soon to close his base at Manton, St Jovite's performance in Ireland was impressive. And it too was achieved in record time, partially thanks to a pacemaker.

But, with no obvious front-runner in today's field, the circumstances could be very different and the more mature Saddlers' Hall may be the one best-equipped to exploit them.

Silver Wisp, who finished only a short head behind St Jovite at Epsom when they were second and third respectively behind Dr Devious, and Jeune, who looked so unlucky not to win the King Edward

VII Stakes over today's course and distance at the royal meeting, complete the line-up.

The programme begins in traditional fashion with a ladies' race, the Wimblebach Diamond Stakes, where Report is marginally preferred to Lead The Dance.

My selection ran extremely well last time to finish a close

fourth behind Prince Ferdinand, Pursuit Of Love and Fair Cop in the Jersey Stakes, form which has been upheld since by the first two finishing second in good company.

Marina Park is unlikely to

find the task of giving 3lb to

either Ivanka or Lake Pleasant

easy in the Princess Margaret Stakes. But she is taken to do so, since her victory at Sandown three weeks ago followed a fine fourth behind Lyric Fantasy, Mystic Goddess and Toocando in the Queen Mary Stakes. That form looks outstanding.

Charis, a course and distance winner in June, is

napped to win the Sandham Stakes. His subsequent Sandown second to Fire Top

was boosted on Monday when the third, Sharpitor, won a group three race at Ayre.

Turgenev, ante-post favourite for the Ebor, can complete

a double for Charlie's trainer,

John Gosden, by winning the Blacknest Handicap.

Carson seeking a fifth

King George success

May 19, Goodwood, good to firm

(8-12) best Hertz's Mill (6-12) 51 (1m

21, listed, £16,000, 9 run).

May 1, Newmarket, good: (8-13)

best Arcadian Heights (6-11) 10

(1m 5f 89y, group II) Ormonde

Stakes, 223, 421, 7 run.

May 18, Ascot, good to firm:

see TERIMON.

May 26, Sandown, good to firm: (9-1)

best Wimbo (6-11) 11 (1m 21,

group II Bridgerton Stakes,

17,411, 3 run.

SAPIENCE

May 4, Sandown, soft: see OPERA

HOUSE.

May 19, Ascot, good to firm: see

TERIMON.

May 24, Epsom, good: see SAD-

DLERS' HALL.

TERIMON

May 4, Sandown, soft: see OPERA

HOUSE.

May 16, Ascot, good to firm:

see TERIMON.

May 23, Ascot, good to firm: (9-7)

best Hardwicke Stakes (6-12) 51

(1m 21, listed, £10,700, 6 run).

SILVER WISP

May 9, Chepstow, good to firm (8-7)

best Jahati (9-11) 11 (1m 4,

conditions race, £14,118, 5 run).

May 13, Epsom, good: see ST

JOVITE.

May 22, Newmarket, good: (9-0)

best Arcadian Accident (2,000

Guineas, 213, 736, 16 run).

ST JOVITE

May 28, The Curragh, good: (9-0)

best De Vries (9-0) 121 (1m 4,

group I Budweiser Irish Derby,

£235,000, 11 run).

May 3, Epsom, good: (9-0) 21

to Dr Devious (9-0) 121 (1m 4,

group I Ready Derby, £355,000, 16 run).

May 9, Leopardstown, good to firm: (9-0) best Flying Mile (6-13) 51 (1m 21, group II Dunlop Stakes, 224, 200, 5 run).

Selection: ST JOVITE (rep)

## BIG RACE

### 3.20 KING GEORGE VI & QUEEN ELIZABETH DIAMOND STAKES

SBC1

(Group I: £261,216; 1m 4f) (8 runners)

- (3) 4-31102 OPERA HOUSE 21 (F-S) (Shaikh Mohammed) M Stoute 4-9-7 (b) (c Sadler's Wells - Colours) Maroon, white sleeves, maroon cap, white star) S Caulfield 89  
(6) 0-51210 ROCK HOPPER 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Maknoon Al-Maknoon) M Stoute 5-8-7 (b) (c H Sharer Dancer - Cormorant Wood) Royal blue, white chevron, light blue cap) W Carson 87  
(1) 20-1111 SADDLERS' HALL 18 (CD,F,G,S) (Lord Wellstock) M Stoute 4-8-7 (b) (c Sadler's Wells - Sunny Valentine) Pale blue, yellow and white check cap) R Cochrane 86  
(7) 6-12023 SAPIENCE 22 (D,F,G,S) (W O'Gorman) D Elsworth 6-8-7 (b) (c h Niniki - Claretta) Yellow, dark blue, hoofs, yellow sleeves and cap) M Roberts 85  
(4) 100-340 TERIMON 21 (F,G) (Dowager Lady Beaverbrook) C Brittain 6-8-7 (b) (c h Rustino - Nicholas Grey) Beaver brown, maple leaf green cross-belts and cap) M Hills 82  
(8) 4-31312 JEUNE 38 (F,G) (Sir Robin McAlpine) G Wragg 3-8-9 (b) (c h Kalioglio - Youthful) (McAlpine tartan, gold armlets and cap) M Hills 82  
(5) 11-3431 SILVER WISP 16 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) G Lewis 3-8-9 (b) (c h Silver Hawk - La Ninouche) (Orange, black sleeves, striped sleeves, black cap, orange star) S Crane 81  
(2) 14-4121 ST JOVITE 22 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs K Kraft) J Bolger (j) 3-8-9 (b) (c h Pleasant Colony - Northern Sun) (White, royal blue hollow box, white sleeves, blue cap) S Crane 81  
BETTING: 5-4 St Jovite, 9-4 Saddlers' Hall, 11-2 Silver Wisp, 8-1 Opera House, 12-1 Sapienza, 14-1 Rock Hopper, 16-1 Terimon.

1991: GENEROUS 3-8-9 A Musa (4-5 fav) P Cole 9 ran

## Form guide to the eight contenders

### OPERA HOUSE

Ju 4, Sandown, soft: (9-7) 1½ 2nd to Kooyanga (6-12) 51 (1m 21, listed, £16,000, 9 run).

May 7, Chester, good to firm: (9-2) best Arcadian Heights (6-11) 10 (1m 5f 89y, group II Ormonde Stakes, 223, 421, 7 run).

SAPIENCE

Ju 4, Sandown, soft: see OPERA

HOUSE.

Ju 19, Ascot, good to firm: see

TERIMON.

May 26, Sandown, good to firm: (9-1)

best Wimbo (6-11) 11 (1m 21,

group II Bridgerton Stakes,

17,411, 3 run).

ROCK HOPPER

Ju 4, Sandown, soft: see OPERA

HOUSE.

Ju 16, Ascot, good to firm:

see TERIMON.

May 23, Ascot, good to firm:

see SAPIENCE.

JU 4, Epsom, good: see SAD-

DLERS' HALL.

TERIMON

Ju 4, Sandown, soft: see OPERA

HOUSE.

Ju 16, Ascot, good to firm:

see TERIMON.

May 24, Epsom, good: (9-0) 31

best Arcadian Accident (2,000

Guineas, 213, 736, 16 run).

ST JOVITE

Ju 28, The Curragh, good: (9-0)

best De Vries (9-0) 121 (1m 4,

group I Budweiser Irish Derby,

£235,000, 11 run).

Jun 3, Epsom, good: (9-0) 21

to Dr Devious (9-0) 121 (1m 4,

group I Ready Derby, £355,000, 16 run).

May 9, Leopardstown, good to firm:

see ST JOVITE.

JUENE

Ju 16, Ascot, good to firm: (8-8) 21

2nd to Beyton (8-8) 12 (1m 4,

group II King Edward VII Stakes, 657,473, 12 run).

Selection: ST JOVITE (rep)

### WOLVERHAMPTON

#### MANDARIN

1.50 THE Fed. 2.25 Water Diviner. 2.55 My Bonus.

3.25 West Stow. 3.55 Don't Smile. 4.25 Mainly Me.

THUNDERER

1.50 THE Fed. 2.25 Strike-A-Pose. 2.55 My Bonus.

3.25 West Stow. 3.55 Futures Gift. 4.25 Southwold

At.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

SBC1

1.50 GOOSEBERRY MAIDEN GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES (2-Y-O: £20,700; 5f) (7) (runners)

1. 5 GRE



Englishman on target to equal record in German grand prix with eighth victory

# Mansell turns race qualifying into his one-man show

FROM NORMAN HOWELL IN HOCKENHEIM

IT WAS business as usual as the Nigel Mansell roadshow rolled on yesterday. The Englishman, poised to equal Ayrton Senna's record of eight Formula One race victories in a season, ran away with the first qualifying session of the German grand prix here. He is showing such commanding form, indeed, that even his rivals are singing his praises.

If that first session is anything to go by, Mansell, driving his Williams-Renault, will lead for all 45 laps tomorrow, retain the title he won last year, further extend his ever-widening championship lead and the inevitable adulation will pour forth once again. There is just no stopping him.

Mansell finished two seconds ahead of the Brazilian, Senna, who, driving a McLaren-Honda, was his nearest rival on the day. Senna, the world champion, is already so far behind in the points table as to present only a theoretical threat.

Praise for Mansell came yesterday from the unlikely direction of Ron Dennis, who is the head of the McLaren

organisation. "He is driving brilliantly," Dennis said. "But he is also a very powerful, difficult car, too. Indeed, it's like a stallion, and Mansell has been quite brilliant at riding it. I think that a lot of people underestimated his driving ability."

Mansell is even beginning to embarrass his team-mate, Riccardo Patrese, who until recently was competitive enough to need a reminder from the Williams management that Mansell was the team's 1.

The leading two qualifiers were both in a jovial, even jocular, mood yesterday after the timed session, which was held in hot and difficult conditions.

The Englishman made light of an incident involving Olivier Grouillard, the Tyrrell driver, who appeared to block him on one of his fast laps, while Senna managed to joke about the large time difference Mansell had inflicted on him.

"It's not so bad really. We are fast in the straight," Senna said. "It's down to driving style. I have a narrow head, it

has less wind resistance. But in the corners, I go slower. I have a light head, you see, no downforce."

Mansell admitted that he had to work hard for his time and had encountered a few "hairy moments", as he called them, navigating through the debris left by the dozen or so cars that came to grief in the newly designed chicane before the Ostkurve.

"It is very bumpy. Whichever way you point the car, to take the bend properly, it just gets spat out sideways," Mansell said. "It has a bump, and it sort of takes off. It is dangerous because I just couldn't keep my feet on the pedals, they just sizzled sideways."

Senna, too, was critical of the track, and he does not even have the benefit of active ride, which in theory at least, should reduce the effects of the bounces.

"It is a bit less dangerous than it was last week, but it's still not right," he said. "When you come in at 230kph and then have to slow down to second gear, obviously things are going to happen," he said.

And they did, with Johnny Herbert, Gianni Morbidelli, Alessandro Zanardi and Stefano Modena all experiencing difficulties yesterday.

Dennis's comments about Mansell were praise indeed, coming from a man whose team has had a disappointing season so far, and who seems likely to lose his engine manufacturer, Honda, and his best driver, Senna, at the end of the year.

Still, Dennis seems cheerful, possibly because he believes that both Senna and Honda will stay, even if McLaren needs a transitional year before the team can again be competitive.

Senna yesterday, for the first time, admitted two important points that is future is linked with Honda, and that he would be prepared to have a transitional year if it meant a

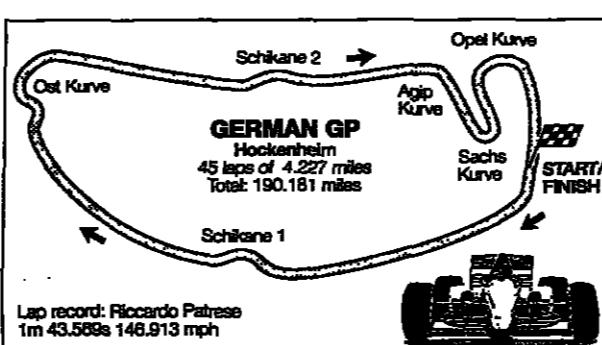


Thought-provoking: Senna considers the task ahead in qualifying yesterday

having a truly competitive car in 1993.

After the startling news from Japan last week that Honda were considering pulling out of Formula One, all of this points to Dennis and Honda having made up their differences.

Certainly, something is afoot. Senna's father is here and he only joins the circuit when contract time comes around.



Lap record: Riccardo Patrese 43.538s 146.913 mph

## Practice times:

1. N. Mansell (GB), Williams, 1min 38.340secs (av speed, 249.481kph); 27, U. Senna (Japan), Venturi, 1:40.000; 28, R. Patrese (It), McLaren, 1:40.381; 3, R. Patrese (It), Williams, 1:40.501; 4, G. Berger (Austria), McLaren, 1:40.689; 5, M. Schumacher (Germany), Benetton, 1:42.182; 6, A. Senna (Japan), Williams, 1:42.553; 7, T. Boutsen (Belgium), 1:42.930; 8, M. Alboreto (It), Footwork, 1:43.574; 9, M. Brundle (GB), Benetton, 1:43.614; 10, E. Comas (It), Ligier, 1:43.656; 11, I. Capelli (It), Ferrari, 1:43.744; 12, A. de Cesari (It), Benetton, 1:43.750; 13, K. Wendlinger (Austria), March, 1:44.173; 14, A. Sato (Japan), Footwork, 1:44.369; 15, M. Hakkinen (Fin), Lotus, 1:44.370; 18, G. Tarquini (It), Fondmetal, 1:44.661; 17, O. Grouillard (Fr), Tyrrell, 1:44.689; 18, P. Martini (It), Dallara, 1:45.093; 19, P. Tamburini (It), Dallara, 1:45.120; 20, P. Belotti (It), March, 1:45.180; 21, G. Morbidelli (It), 1:45.455; 22, A. Zanardi (It), Minardi, 1:45.788; 23, M. Gugelmin (It), Jordan, 1:45.941; 24, J. Herbert (GB), Lotus, 1:46.164; 25, S. Modena (It), Jordan, 1:48.211; 26, A.

## YACHTING

**Rules seem to favour Sunstone**

By ALIX RAMSAY

THE Rolex Commodore's Cup is fast earning the reputation as the regatta nobody knows how to win.

Most of the teams are happy with the event, pleased with the courses and impressed by the organisation. The trouble starts when the crews, who feel they have done well on the water, return to base to discover the computer has awarded the race to somebody else.

With seemingly identical boats being given different ratings and therefore different handicaps and the 27-year-old Sunstone apparently invincible under rules, there is a good deal of confusion over how the system actually works.

Yesterday saw the start of the Red Funnel Channel Race, the first of two off-shore races in the series. Thanks to the handicapping system, Sunstone can gain anything up to 14 hours on some of her competitors, which is a little like letting Tom and Vicky Jackson's yacht start halfway down the course and allowing them to finish on equal terms with the rest of the fleet. Who actually wins the race will depend on the vagueness of the man with the computer.

## Barrett's best bet is find the big punch

By SRIKUMAR SEN  
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

TWO British world contenders, who have waited patiently for two years, get their chance for world titles at the G-Mex Centre, Manchester tonight.

Both face Americans for World Boxing Organisation titles: Pat Barrett, of Manchester, takes on Manning Galloway, the welterweight champion, and Derek Angol, from Gravesend, meets Tyrone Booze, for the vacant cruiserweight title.

Although both should win, to increase Britain's tally of WBO titles to four, Barrett is the harder job. Galloway has defended his title successfully five times outside the United States. In his 13-year career he has faced good middleweights and light-middleweights and knows enough to make

Barrett's life difficult. Barrett has a good stoppage record against southpaws, but those scores were against light-heavyweights. He could find the experienced and cagey champion difficult to catch.

The Englishman has never looked happy against clever boxers. Dwayne Swift, a slick American, exposed this failing 18 months ago in London. Swift is a friend of Galloway. Barrett must hope that age has blunted the reflexes of the champion.

Angol's opponent, on the other hand, appears to be made for him. Booze, being short and forward-moving, should come on to Angol's punches, just as Appolo Sweet and Dee Jay did. Sweet was given a pasting and Dee Jay was knocked out in three rounds.

Even if Booze has been the distance with high class opponents, among them Evander

Unless Barrett can land the big punch that has earned him 24 inside the distance wins in 34 bouts, he could find himself trailing at the end.

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## SCHOOLS SPORT

## Gresham on pioneering course in Bisley fortnight

By CHRIS DIGHTON

pit their skills against adult competitors.

The school's permanent pavilion at Bisley has helped to maintain its successes. The Gresham's rifle club captain, Charlotte Lemmer, aged 18, collected this year's Reserve Cup over a distance of 300

metres and the school also won the Connaught ranges. It will be the twentieth consecutive year that the school has been represented in the event.

The school has about 90 members in its rifle club and has an indoor small-bore range for the winter.

## SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

## Clash brings danger of split loyalties

By ALIX RAMSAY

THE 1992 Paralympic Games will mark a breakthrough for people with learning difficulties. For the first time they will have their own Games, run under the international Paralympic banner, to be held in Madrid immediately after the Games for the physically disabled close in Barcelona.

Unhappily, however, they will have to share the spotlight with the Special Olympics, an American organisation founded by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, which will be held in Barcelona a matter of weeks after the close of the

and might lead to split loyalties.

To prevent confusion in Britain, UKSA has agreed with Special Olympics UK (SOUK) not to send a team to Barcelona and instead combine their support for the Paralympic event in Madrid, a move Biggs sees as a big step forward in co-operation for the development of sport for the mentally handicapped.

Special Olympics (Europe) realises that some athletes will be eligible to attend both events but it is not their policy to encourage participation in different tournaments.

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## WEEKEND FIXTURES

## Today

## CRICKET

Fourth Cornhill Test match

11.30 BST England v Pakistan

HEADingley: England v Pakistan

Sunday League

11.45 102 overs minimum

ABERGAVENNY: Glamorgan v

CHELTENHAM COLLEGE: Gloucester-

shire v Sussex

OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Surrey

LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Kent

LORD'S: Middlesex v Durham

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Northants

WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire

HAMPSHIRE: Hampshire v

MIDLAND COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP:

Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Leicestershire v Northants v Nottinghamshire

OTHER SPORT

FOOTBALL: Testimonial match: Middlesex v City (pt 2) at Twickenham, 1.30pm

GOLF: British Seniors Open (Royal Lytham)

MOTOR RACING: British touring car championships (Knockhill)

## Tomorrow

## CRICKET

Fourth Cornhill Test match

11.30 BST England v Pakistan

HEADingley: England v Pakistan

Sunday League

11.45 102 overs minimum

PONTYPRIDD: Glamorgan v

Derbyshire (1.30)

CHLTENHAM COLLEGE: Gloucester-

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## POLO

## Anglo-American challenge revived

By JOHN WATSON

TOMORROW'S Hurling-

ham international day, staged

at Smith's Lawn, Windsor

Great Park and sponsored by

Cartier, is the highlight of the

calendar. The throw-in for the

first (six-chukka) match, is

scheduled for 3pm.

This ornate trophy was won

nine times by the United

States and three times by

Britain between 1886 and

1939. Since then it will not

have been competed for as an

Anglo-American challenge

Championship leaders routed in first innings

## Millns and Boon compound the misery for Essex

By IVO TENNANT

LEICESTER (first day of three: Leicestershire won toss): Leicestershire, with all their second-innings wickets in hand, beat Essex by 153 runs.

THESE are days, usually two or three, a summer when Essex bat in a manner that is quite out of keeping with their standing in the game. They may seek to blame the pitch for being bowled out for 75, one run more than the lowest score of the season. They will have learned, though, that it is not so indifferent as to be reported.

This is a sporting pitch, used for a Sunday League match last week and which is at times lively and inconsistent in bounce. Yet, it is not one on which the county championship leaders, 48 points ahead of the second-placed side, Leicestershire, at the start of play, should be bowled out in 23.4 overs.

Their opponents fared little better, but well enough, perhaps, to win in two days. The championship is not yet over.

Leicestershire were originally intent on using another pitch on the other side of the ground until, eyeing it yesterday morning, they felt it might turn square. They have no

spinners to speak of; Essex have Childs and Such.

Even though the Test and County Cricket Board's inspector will not be appearing here, the club is all too aware that its pitches are not satisfactory. Two have been dug up and relaid recently.

For the most part, though, the bowling was masterly. In the case of Millns, it was pretty quick, too.

Leicestershire's captain won the toss for the tenth successive time in the championship, an important factor in a surge up the table that has taken even them by surprise.

Very soon they were 19 for five and ruminating, like Javed Miandad, that there are days when luck has no virtue.

Foster, who has had luck all — he is to have another exploratory knee operation next Thursday — bowled beautifully in this period, having Whistler and Smith caught at first slip and Benson at second.

Briers and Potter went to lunch and, had Foster held Boon in his follow-through, Leicestershire would have been 19 for six and as pilloried as Essex.

After that first hour, Boon and the lower middle order applied themselves. It was

perhaps, no coincidence that a Yorkshireman made the highest score of the day: Boon's 58, a partnership of 44 between Nixon and Millns, and an unexpected last-wicket stand of 20 enabled Leicestershire to finish with 193, a total that in the morning would have been 281 runs behind Sussex.

COURTNEY Walsh, the West Indian fast bowler, continued to carry the Gloucestershire bowling almost single-handed yesterday when he took four for 39 against Sussex. It lifted Walsh's aggregate for the season so far to 62, a tribute to his consistent form in spite of the distractions of a benefit year.

Mark Davies, the left-arm spinner, with 33 wickets, follows Walsh in the Gloucestershire list of wicket-takers. Davies, a rapidly improving bowler, claimed three wickets.

It was a good performance by Gloucestershire on a bland pitch to dismiss their opponents by 5.20 after several of the Sussex batsmen threatened to run amok. Smith, Lenham and Wells all passed 60 before carelessness had a hand in their downfalls. Moores and Remy also hit lustily among the late order men.

These five shared 52 fours between them. It was only partly due to a short boundary for this match on one side of the field, which was not always easy to defend. Numerous hard-hit drives also provided good entertainment for another sizeable festival crowd.

Hall, with scores of 140 not out and 71 behind him in the previous match, had almost been held in the slips from Walsh's second ball before he was caught behind in the bowler's second over. Smith, another man in form, was limping slightly but drove and pulled with great power before he was bowled by a near full toss from Ball, the off-spinner.

Ball should have had Lenham stumped soon afterwards. Lenham was 41 and moved out to drive, but was beaten by the spin, which also caused Russell to fumble the chance. Otherwise, Lenham and Wells, who have recently experienced lean spells, offered no encouragement to the bowlers, as they took the total past 200.

Lenham invariably timed the ball sweetly until he aimed a loose cut against Alleyne was caught in the slips. Lenham hit 14 fours. Speight, scorer of the season's fastest hundred on Thursday, played too soon against Babington and gave a return catch.

Impressive strokes past cover marked the batting of Wells, until he moved out against Davies's quicker ball and was stumped. After tea, Sussex lost their last five wickets in 13 overs, with Walsh taking three for nine.

He had to wait a long time for his second wicket when Gating held out to Botham in the covers in the 83rd. Then, he had Carr caught at mid off, Brown at mid wicket and Weekes at mid off. If Williams ever plays a wilder shot than that which saw Berry bowl him he should be castigated. But perhaps it was all part of making Durham feel at home.

Berry was on early and off late in the absence, through injury, of Graveney's left arm — though the old boy is there to shepherd his charges.

Berry's contribution was

monumental. Fortune favoured him and he was helped by one or two optimistic strokes as Middlesex hustled towards the end, but taking the six wickets, quite apart from the bowling of 36 overs in the day will make Lord's a very special place for him. His first wicket, that of Haynes, was the result of an neat piece of stumping in the 29th over.

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The Somerset attack, even without Neil Maller, did well to restrict a subdued Glamorgan to 276 from 54 overs at Abergavenny, which has had the reputation of a high-scoring ground.

Glamorgan lost three wickets in the fifties and Viv Richards, who would no

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# More money needed to win sport's biggest battle



Before the fall: Johnson was used to medals and bouquets before the scandal in Seoul

THE phone rang at 4.40am in Seoul four years ago with the news of Ben Johnson's positive drug test. The call may have been unpleasantly early, but it was justified, because this was the biggest scandal in 92 years of the modern Olympic Games.

The revelation demonstrated the seriousness of the problem in international sport. It was not just that a gold medal-winner and world record-holder in the 100 metres, the most glamorous event of the Games, had been caught taking anabolic steroids; it was also that he had won titles for years and had never previously been caught.

As the subsequent Dublin Inquiry in Canada discovered, Johnson was not alone in escaping detection. There were several Canadian competitors who also admitted taking illegal substances, had never been caught and argued that they took drugs because so many of their rivals did.

Since Seoul, the changes in eastern Europe have seen suspicions confirmed that, for many years, there was a state-regulated drugs system in place, with many celebrated names—the East Germans in particular—taking banned substances.

Barely a day goes by without further revelations of drug abuse. Over the last month, Lars Arvid Nilsen, the Norwegian shot-putter and bronze

medal-winner at the 1991 world championships, has been found positive for a second time; two South Africans have been suspended, taking to five the total number in that country this year, and five Nigerian athletes have been prevented from going to Barcelona because they failed to pass tests.

How does sport fight the growing menace, particularly when it has been unable to carry through its prosecution of competitors such as Karin Krabbe and Harry "Burch" Reynolds, two of the highest-profile athletes in the world? Reynolds, the world record-holder at 400 metres, and Krabbe, the world 100 and 200 metres champion, and her fellow-German athletes, Silke Möller and Grit Breuer, will not be running in Barcelona, but Reynolds, who fought hard but unsuccessfully to have his ban overturned,

PRINCE Alexandre de Merode, the International Olympic Committee's leading anti-drugs campaigner, is to retire. De Merode, the president of the medical commission, was instrumental in unmasking Ben Johnson's drug-taking at the Seoul Games.

He said he would give up his position soon because he was tired. De Merode, aged 58, said it was time to hand over to a younger person. But IOC sources said he was also tired his treatment by Olympic leaders since becoming publicly prominent over the Johnson scandal. "Some have made life difficult for Merode since Seoul," one IOC member said.

The menace of drugs in sport is ever present and detection remains a step behind, John Goodbody reports

was permitted to run in the United States trials, although he failed to qualify for the team.

The Germans, after having their suspensions lifted by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), decided they were not fit to compete because they had been so mentally exhausted by their efforts to clear their names.

Athletics, the centrepiece of the Games, has suffered a blow to its reputation and integrity in these incidents. The temporary reinstatement of Reynolds, who challenged the adequacy of the testing procedures, makes it clear that much stricter doping regulations must be put in place.

The IAAF spends large amounts of money in conferences and jamborees. There is a clear need for some of this money to be used to ensure that the drugs control regulations are watertight all over the world. What was so extraordinary about the Krabbe affair was that the procedures were slack, not in a third world country but in one of the most developed athletics nations in the world.

When Charles Dubin published the results of his inquiry in 1990, he was critical of both the IAAF and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for not introducing out-of-competition drug tests earlier. Dubin said: "The failure of

many of sport's governing bodies to treat the drug problem more seriously and to take more effective means to detect the use of drugs like anabolic steroids has also contributed in large measure to the extensive use of drugs by athletes. Added to the laxity of enforcement has been the laxity of investigation."

Despite its overt condemnation of drug-taking, the IOC, the moral guardian of sport, has been reluctant to fund the necessary research into drug abuse, arguing that its responsibility lasts for only the fortnight of the Games. Instead of supporting a laboratory in Lausanne, it has spent £25 million on building a museum at its head-quarters.

This money could have been used to investigate the new drugs, which are increasingly being used. The second volume of the *Underground Steroid Handbook* has claimed that one drug was widely used in Seoul and nobody tested positive. This is dihydrotestosterone, which is related to testosterone, the male hormone.

Dr David Cowan, the director of Britain's drug control centre at King's College, London University, said that detection of its use is possible.

"There is a test for this drug but it has not yet been accepted by the IOC," he said. The same applies to Human Growth Hormone. Although

the drug is identical to the one produced naturally by humans. Dr Andrew Kiernan, a member of Dr Cowan's team at King's College, has worked on solving the problem of its illegal use.

"The problem for sports administrators is what is the ratio going to be? We are on track for a breakthrough in an important area of doping. Provided we get the finance, we are sure we can find the final answer," Cowan said.

The IOC, from its vast financial resources, should support this project and others like them throughout the world. If it does not, then the competitors in these and future Olympic Games will always remain one step ahead of the administrators.

Roger Black, the British 400 metres runner, is among those who believe that the IAAF has enough money to ensure that a universal out-of-competition testing programme is in place. He says that athletes should even forgo some rights of privacy for the more rigorous system of blood analysis. The IOC is planning to introduce this by the 1994 Winter Olympics.

Prince Alexandre de Merode, the president of the IOC medical commission, said that by 1994 it needed to be able to satisfy the courts of the reliability of the testing system.

## Drug-busting prince will retire

The prince has been on the IOC since 1964 and set up the medical commission after the Mexico City Games in 1968. His next big task is to win introduction of blood tests, which give more conclusive evidence of deliberate drug-taking, in time for the Lillehammer Winter Olympics in 1994.

IAN STEWART

### Early pressure is on the swimmers

## British medals will help Manchester

FROM JOHN GOODBODY  
IN BARCELONA



BRITAIN begin their battle for Olympic medals tomorrow aiming not only for transient glory but also to help promote Manchester's chances of securing the 2000 Games.

The morale of 385 British competitors would be boosted if Adrian Moorhouse, the defending champion, and Nick Gillingham secure medals in the men's 100 metres breaststroke final tomorrow. Dick Palmer, Britain's *chef de mission*, agreed that it put more pressure on the pair. "Victories by Duncan Goodhew in 1980 and Moorhouse in 1988 certainly raised everyone's spirits at the start of the Games."

Speaking on the eve of the opening ceremony at which the carysman, Steve Redgrave — who will be attempting to win a gold medal at his third successive Games — will be carrying the British flag, Palmer described the British team as "the best prepared we have ever had."

"There has been more detailed preparation than we have ever had before, particularly in psychology and nutrition. Despite the rise in world standards, I will be disappointed if we do not do as well as in Seoul and we have got the potential to do very much

better." In 1988, Britain finished twelfth out of 160 nations in the medal table with five gold, ten silver and nine bronze medals.

However, Palmer said that Manchester's hopes of staging the 2000 Games could be enhanced by the number of medals won here. "I always think that the most potent argument you can have in the committee room is the performance of the competitors themselves."

With the government committed financially and politically to Manchester's bid — John Major and four other ministers are visiting Barcelona during the two weeks of the event — Britain's success at the Games gains extra importance.

Palmer said: "There is no doubt that there is a whole new feeling in government for sport. Robert Key visited the village on Thursday and showed a personal interest in the team, talking very enthusiastically to the competitors."

However, the opposition is the strongest ever, given rising standards and the fact that 169 countries are here. With the return of South Africa and the collapse of communism in eastern Europe, this will be the first time since 1960 that the Games have not been rent by international political disputes, which have often led to boycotts. Medals will be at a premium with a total of 10,000 competitors taking part in the 25 sports.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee, spoke happily yesterday at his final news conference before the Games — in his home town — of the "unity that exists today". But he again warned of the danger of the Games becoming unmanageable in size. He said that if new sports were admitted, then others would have to be dropped from the programme.

When questioned about drugs, Samaranch said that the International Olympic Committee would be "co-ordinating" the work of all the international federations in random out-of-competition testing of competitors who use proscribed substances out of season. It will be interesting to see how actively the IOC does this and whether it will fund new research from its vast financial resources.



Double act: breaststrokers Gillingham and Moorhouse, ready for early action

## Stark is eager to conquer course

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR

THE four members of the British three-day event team, who start on Monday as favourites for the Olympic gold medal, exuded quiet confidence after walking the cross-country course for the first time yesterday.

The imposing 33-fence course, built by Wolfgang Feld, of Germany, is situated on the edge of El Montanya, a picturesque mountain village — with a refreshing breeze — 50km north of Barcelona.

Ian Stark, who is also among the favourites for the individual gold medal, described the course as "very big and demanding", adding that "the horses will have to be nimble and supple because there are short and long distances within the same combination — but it is beautifully built and we are all keen to kick on and get started".

Stark, a team silver medallist in Los Angeles and Seoul, decides tomorrow, after the trot up, whether he will ride Glenburnie or Murphy's Hirsch.

Richard Walker, who is competing at his first Olympic Games, described the straight route on the course as "quite serious" but his confidence in the ten-year-old Jacana is such that he said yesterday he would be quite happy to go first for Britain — as he did at the European championships in Puncastown last year, when he won the individual silver medal.

## Swimmers scheme to continue British tradition

FROM CRAIG LORD

EVERY vital stroke that Adrian Moorhouse and Nick Gillingham take in the heats of the 100 metres breaststroke tomorrow morning will be matched by the sound of British hearts beating fast, not just at home but here in the athletes' village.

For the two should make the final and continue a habit in which swimmers create the first chances for Britain to win Olympic medals. Success would lift the spirits of all British competitors from day one, as it did in 1976, with a silver medal for David Wilkie, and in 1980 and 1988, when Goodhew and Moorhouse became Olympic champions.

The omens look good. Gil-

lingham is the fastest man in the world this year and only 0.04sec away from the world record, and Moorhouse, who has yet to show his true race form this year, is relaxed and confident. Between them, they hold five of the top ten performances at 100 metres.

Dick Palmer, general secretary of the British Olympic Association, sympathised with the swimmers. He said: "There's more pressure on them. It is the same as in Seoul, when Moorhouse did it, and for Goodhew in Moscow. Winning on Sunday would definitely raise the morale of the whole British team."

At a recent gathering of former Olympic champions, Malcolm Cooper, the shooter, said: "Both British swimmers have heard the story before,

but deny that they feel extra pressure for being the first on the line. Gillingham said: "It's good to know there's support out there, but that's not really what affects me; you can't think like that. I was more relaxed in Seoul, everything was new. This time, I'm more reserved and I feel more pressure, but from myself."

Although the statistics and the Britons' record of success at big championships point to medals, the rivals constantly remind questioners that of the eight finalists, six could win.

The favourite is Norbert Rossa, aged 20, the Hungarian world record-holder and Rossa are similar in size, the Briton at 6ft 1in and 13st 7lb, Gillingham is 6ft but only 11st 7lb.

The British pair object to being likened to runners Seb Coe and Steve Ovett in terms of rivalry. Moorhouse, who would be the first to retain the 100 metres title if he won, said: "We get on well and we'll be the stronger for having each other in the final, but only one can win. We know that."

CHRIS BOARDMAN, Britain's

midway through the second half. In the closing minutes, Bovender equalised from another short corner.

"We were pleased with our performance against the World Cup holders, particularly in attack," Bernie Cotter, the team manager, said yesterday morning as Britain contemplated their first Olympic match tomorrow against Egypt.

Britain got away to a splendid start with a well-taken goal in the ninth minute by Lee. The chance was set up by Shaw after a quick break on the right by Batchelor.

The Dutch levelled the score a minute after half-time, with Bovender converting a short corner. Luckies, taking over from Rowlands as goalkeeper, made several good saves before Hill converted Britain's only short corner

on last year, but was beaten by Gillingham for the European 200 metres title.

Gillingham, aged 25, leads a field of newcomers to the 100 metres who have bunched up behind Rossa and the 61.49sec time that Moorhouse has clocked three times. While Moorhouse and Rossa are similar in size, the Briton at 6ft 1in and 13st 7lb, Gillingham is 6ft but only 11st 7lb.

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# WEEKEND TIMES

SATURDAY JULY 25 1992



## Pilgrims on the path to happiness

**Guislaine Morland**  
and her husband  
Miles put their  
hearts and soles  
into a journey to  
Mont-St Michel.  
Sweat and tears  
later, the walk had  
changed their lives

**H**ave we been to Mont-St Michel before?" I asked Miles. "Don't you remember?" he said. "We were driving to Rouen. I think we had lunch nearby, and we stopped and looked at the view. Nothing, no feeling. So much for car trips. I looked down at the shiny brown monkey faces of my new shoes and concentrated on my footing. We had been following a narrow stony track known as 'Le Sentier des Douaniers', the Path of the Customs Officers, which crossed a small stream banked with wild yellow iris, twisting and turning through a wood, then up and down gullies until at last we emerged on the cliffs. The path widened so that when we saw Mont-St Michel it was in the same instant. Even Miles, for once, said nothing. I saw the tears in his eyes, and he saw mine. We'd been walking, talking of this moment for seven days. He took my hand and we continued, gaze fixed on the hazy blue vision five miles away, a sapphire shimmering in our surprised eyes.

There was a time when pilgrimages were de rigueur. In France, the roads that led to Mont-St Michel were Les Chemins du Paradis. We were following one of these, although today it's a Grande Randonnée, part of the network of hiking paths throughout France.

We rested by la Cabane de Vauban, a one-room stone building on the edge of the cliff facing the bay. Way down below, the black shapes of two cormorants were poised on the rocky shore, motionless as priests in prayer.

We began the descent like children playing hide and seek, catching the mount as it moved with the change of terrain, a heavenly staircase floating between the trees, a wedding cake on a plate of poppies, and always the holy arrow quivering in the sky.

**W**e had left England by sea, wanting a long, slow approach to the French coast. Portsmouth, and the memory of home, receded with every wave, responsibilities shrank until we were just you and me. Miles put an arm around my shoulders, and we watched the grey ceiling slide away like a roof panel to clear skies.

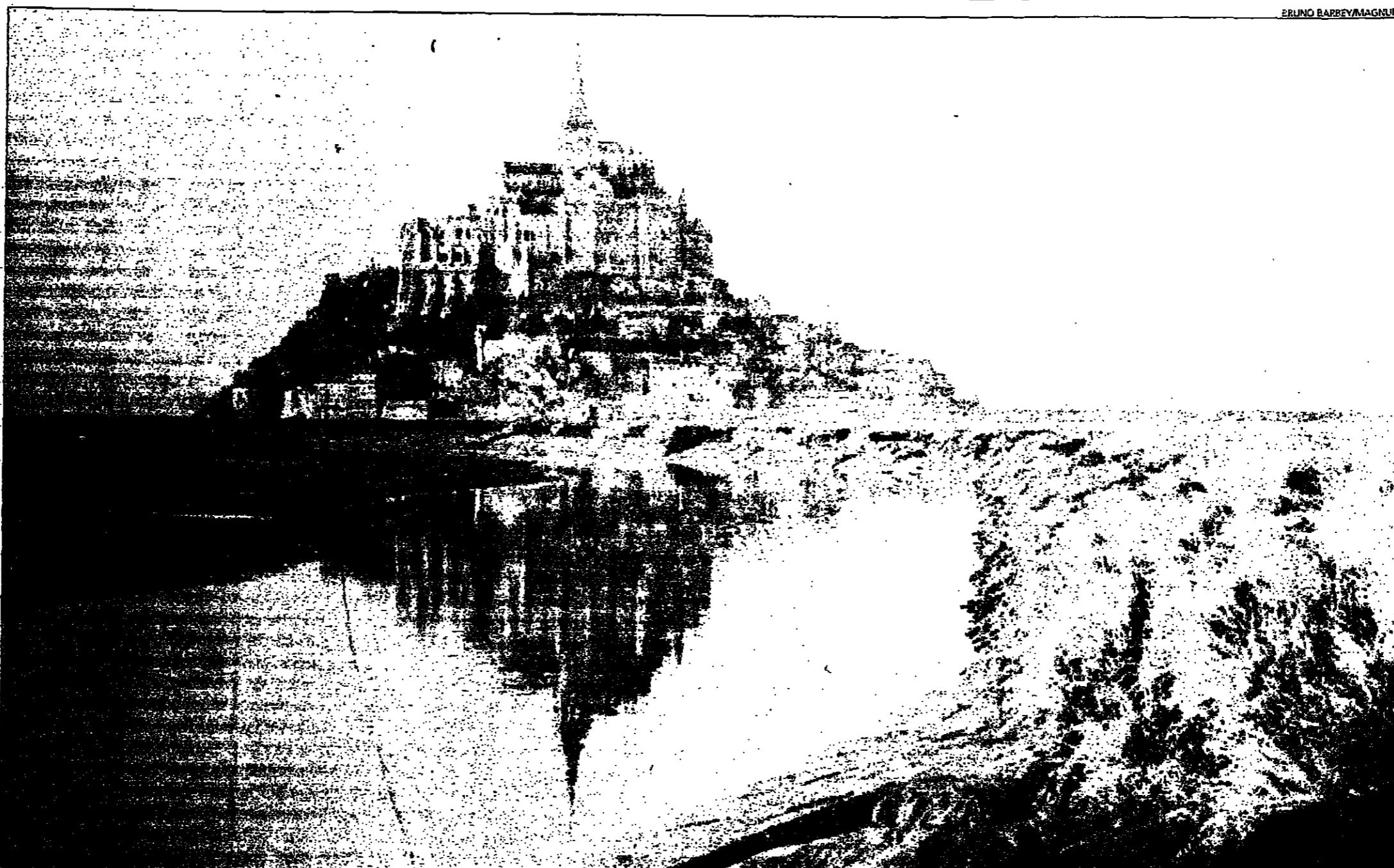
We arrived in Cherbourg in the late afternoon and took a taxi to Carteret, on the coast. This meant we could start walking on the beach instead of through Cherbourg suburbs (and knock 20km off the walk), leaving us nine days for 170km. "Easy," Miles said, "in fact, we should be able to take a rest day." Easy for whom, I wondered, but reserved my doubts.

Carteret is a small fishing port, feet on granite. Its back seems against dunes as high as hills and little boys slid down the sides on their stomachs as we stood in marram grass and red valerian looking out to Jersey.

We set off the next morning, past hedgerows of elders in flower like an alley of white parasols. Should heaven be freedom, then this is the closest we shall get to it, I thought, like this, walking free.

After a while, our path turned to the sea. A few tractors were parked on the long, wide stretch of tidal flats. Only farmers were there, gathering thick tresses and coils of pink, green, brown popping sea-seaweed for fertilising their fields.

"Let's sing," Miles said. "What have you got?" I had brought sheet music. We had done this once before: three years ago we walked across France from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic, starting on the coast beyond Narbonne, across the Gers, making our own way, ending up in Capbreton, a few miles north



Reflections of Mont-St Michel. "I saw the tears in his eyes, and he saw mine. He took my hand and we continued, gaze fixed on the hazy blue vision five miles away, a sapphire shimmering in our surprised eyes"

of Biarritz. It took just over three weeks. After that our lives had changed radically. And the urge for another long walk, for the something that beckons, never left us. It was then that we had regretted not knowing more than bits of lyrics, bits of melody.

Low-flying shore birds shimmered and banked as one as I pulled out of my belt bag six pages of sheet music. "Um, let's see. I've got 'Yes Sir, That's My Baby' and 'Wonderful S'marvellous' —

Miles interrupted: "You can't march to that." Well, there's 'The Way You Wear Your Hat', that has a good beat." I'm rather fond of jazz and Broadway songs. Miles adjusted the straps of his rucksack, and somewhat reluctantly joined in. "The way you sip your tea..."

I knew summer was imminent but I lost track of when. By the edge of the sea long stretches of beach were signed with shells and watermarks. We only once had to follow an inland road, where flatness was boring, it was raining, we sang "Bye Bye Blackbird" and our hearts were full nevertheless of a great happiness. The preoccupations of daily life at home became tiny spots in the back of my mind, lost in banks of wild honeysuckle and bramble roses, and I would tease Miles, ever the rationalist, as I discerned a grand theme of things in the dance of landscape, as tantalising as a striptease, and far greater than the paternal figure on an altar. "How are your blisters?" he would ask. "Ain't got none..."

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## FILM

**BATMAN RETURNS** (12): Quirky but ho-hum sequel, when the spotlight falls on Michelle Pfeiffer's electrifying Catwoman. With Michael Keaton, Danny DeVito; director, Tim Burton. **Barbican** (071-638 8891). **Camden Parkway** (071-267 7034). **Empire** (071-497 9999). **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772). **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636). **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310). **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0931). **Notting Hill** (071-727 6705). **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520). **UCI Whitsleys** (071-792 3332).

**BEETHOVEN'S HOOT** (12): Stubbington brings disaster and joy to the suburbs. Adequate family comedy. **Charlie Grodin, Bonnie Hunt**; director, Brian Levant. **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636). **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310). **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0931).

**BELLE DU JOUR** (18): Buñuel's 1957 classic about the adventurous libido of a bourgeois wife (Catherine Deneuve). Cool and compelling in a sparkling new print. **Joan Sorel, Michel Piccoli, Everyman** (071-435 1525). **MGM Syntex Centre** (071-439 4470).

**THE BEST INTENTIONS** (12): Ingmar Bergman's fascinating tale of his parents' turbulent courtship and marriage. **Dull** direction by Bille August; excellent performances (Pernilla August, Samuel Röder). **Gate** (071-727 4043). **Lumière** (071-836 0691).

**Splendid villain: Captain Hook from Peter Pan**

**THE BUTCHER'S WIFE** (12): Arch whimsy about a New York butcher'sclairvoyant wife (Demi Moore), partly salvaged by bright lines and a genial cast. **Jeff Daniels, Mary Steenburgen**; Director, Terry Hughes. **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636). **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 1418). **MGM Trocadero** (071-34 0931).

**HOWARDS END** (PG): Absorbing version of E.M. Forster's novel about two colliding families with different ideals. With Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson, Helena Bonham-Carter. Director, James Ivory. **Curzon Mayfair** (071-465 2656). **Curzon West End** (071-439 4205).

**THE LONG DAY CLOSES** (12): Terence Davies' powerful evocation of childhood's lost paradise. **Wifin Leigh McCormack, Marjorie Yates, and a wonderful cast** of a college of Fifies Britain. **Curzon Phoenix** (071-240 9661).

**THE LOVER** (18): Jean-Jacques Annaud's over-careful, faithfully erotic adaptation of Marguerite Duras's autobiographical novella about an adolescent girl's discovery of sex and love in Twenties colonial Indo-China. **TAG** (071-370 2636). **MGM Haymarket** (071-339 7227). **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-336 6279/79 7025). **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0931). **UCI Whitsleys** (071-792 3321).

**MY COUSIN VINNY** (15): Adventures of a novice lawyer defending a murder charge down South. **Uncertain comic vehicle for Joe Pesci, might support from Marisa Tomei, Fred Gwynne, Jonathan Lynn**; directs **Frank Oz**. **Curzon Soho** (071-434 5254). **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5254). **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 5142). **ODEON Kensington** (071-226 51466). **Metropole Arc** (02-26 914501). **West End** (071-557241). **UCI Whitsleys** (071-792 3322).

**THEATRE**

**LONDON**

**ABSENT FRIENDS**: Gary Bond, Susie Blake in Ayckbourn's bittersweet comedy contrasting dreadful present marriages with an incredibly marvellous (but finished) one.

**LYRIC HAMMERSMITH**, King Street, W6 (081-741 2131). Preview, Tues, 7.45pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm; opens Thurs, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm.

**MURDER BY MISADVENTURE**: Gerald Harper and William Gaunt play crime writers who fall out and pit their wits against each other: *run-of-the-mill* thriller.

**VAUDEVILLE**, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, 8.30pm, Sat, 8.45pm.

**PHILADELPHIA, HERE I COME!**: Affectionate comedy of an Irish emigrant and his camping alter ego. Excellent revival of Brian Friel's first success.

**WYNDHAMS**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1161). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mat Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

**DEATH AND THE MAIDEN**: And Dorfman's searing psychological drama. Geraldine James, Michael Byrne.

**Duke of York's**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, 8pm, Sat, 8.45pm.

**THE RECRUITING OFFICER**: Nicholas Hytner's good-natured production, rather too good to be true to play's darker content.

**National (Olivier)**, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tues-Fri, 8pm, mat Sat, 8.30pm, Sun, 8.45pm.

**SHADES**: Pauline Collins torn between her child, rum and remembrance in *Shaman*.

**Macmillan's** new play, directed by Simon Callow.

**Albert Hall**, St Margaret's Lane, WC2 (071-967 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm.

**DEAVILS**: Jimmy Porter 35 years old Osborne's head rants and whines but in a more rounded, and Peter Egan's too round, too domed to be the angry Old Man.

**Duke of York's**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs, 8pm, Sat, 8.45pm.

**THE VIRTUOSO**: Shadwell's Restoration comedy of bad behaviour, directed with a vengeance by Phyllida Lloyd.

**The Pit**, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-962 6889).

**Tonight, Mon-Thurs, 7.15pm, mat Thurs, 8pm, mat Sat, 8.45pm**.

**A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE**: Philip Hunt's triumphant RSC production of *John* as a railtonian actress in Wilde's social melodrama.

**Theatre Royal, Haymarket**, SW1 (071-330 2800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Wed, Sat, 8pm.

**REGIONAL**

**BIRMINGHAM**: Dianah Sheridan and Charles Stanley in touring production of *The Kingfisher*.

**William Douglas Home's** comic about the bachelor novelist, his widow, and the butler who would rather they stayed apart.

**Alexandra**, Station Street (021-543 1221). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Wed, Sat, 8pm.

**EDINBURGH**: Simon Donald's *The Life of Stuff*, tough urban comedy about how to build a criminal empire apparently inspired by anecdotes gathered in low Scotch pubs.

**Traverse**, Cambridge Street (031-228 1404). Free public dress rehearsal Fri, 8pm; open Sat, Aug 1, 8pm; then Tues-Sat, 8pm.

**After August 12 in repertoire with many other Traverse productions for the Festival.**

**THIS NEWSPAPER ABIDES BY THE PCC's DECISIONS**



**I SALISBURY SQUARE LONDON EC4Y 8AE**

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**NOISES OFF** (15): Coarsened adaptation of Michael Frayn's farce about a theatrical troupe. Sometimes succeeds in spite of itself.

**Michael Caine, Carol Burnett**; director, Peter Bogdanovich.

**Chelsea** (071-351 3742/3743).

**Odeon: Haymarket** (0426 915353). **Kensington** (0426 914666).

**1066**, today, 2.30pm and 7.30pm, Mon-next Sat, 2.30pm.

**PEPI, LUCI, BOM** . . .

Outrageous adventures of three Madrid women. Arousing if somewhat tame from Pedro Almodovar, completed in 1980.

**With Carmen Maura**.

**Metro** (071-437 0757).

**PETER PAN** (U): Disney's 1952 cartoon version of J.M. Barrie; often bland, but Captain Hook makes a splendid villain.

**MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096).

**MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310).

**West End** (0426 915574).

**UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3322).

**THE PLAYBOYS** (12): Love and jealousy in an Irish village in 1957. Strong performances (Albert Finney, Robin Wright, Aidan Quinn), but too much blarney. Director, Gillies Mackinnon.

**MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096).

**MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527).

**Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666).

**THE PLAYER** (15): Daring satire on Hollywood directed by Rob Reiner from Michael Tolkin's novel. Tim Robbins as the studio executive who falls a writer; plus cameos and walk-ons galore.

**MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096).

**91568** (0426 915353).

**Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520).

**UCI Whitsleys** (071-792 3322).

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**Barbican** (071-638 8891).

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# Men and the language of love

Lynne Truss braced herself for strong stuff in *Men Talk*, but found herself strangely unable to weaken at the knees

WHEN I heard that the kick-off subject for Channel 4's new *Men Talk* on Thursday was to be "The Casanova Complex" I was a little confused. The word "Casanova" seemed somehow to belong to a different era. I thought of maracas and frilly shirts, gaucho pants and big guitars. The name Edmundo Ros came fleetingly to mind. And then I realised: I was thinking of "Bossa Nova". Gosh, how stupid of me. I mean for a minute there, I thought a finger-on-the-pulse Channel 4 discussion programme was in danger of setting off entirely on the wrong foot with an outdated phenomenon that barely exists beyond the realms of a few glittery dance halls. Clearly I needed my head examined.

But after half an hour of frank studio discussion from these six young blokes about the nightclubs chat-ups of the modern Casanova, I began to think my original notion hadn't been so wide of the mark.

Riveting though the entire thing proved to be, the behaviour of the modern Casanova was revealed to be self-evidently moribund and as surely restricted to the dance halls as the Latin-American society band. Seduction is a lost art; Don Juan is in hell. Our modern lothario goes to a club, shoots a glance at a girl, she shoots one back. He says, "Want a drink?" She remarks, "Ooh, nice tan." They leave together in a taxi, and that's about it. Except to mention that the jaunty infantile song from *Pinocchio* ("I got no strings") is audible throughout in the background.

Being a woman, I had braced myself for stronger stuff from *Men Talk*: the sordid revelations of the locker-room, where men traditionally (so I'm told) snicker together about how easy it is to pull women by flattery and lies. I expected to cringe in my mouth to prevent squeals of horror. In the course of the week I even limped up for a devastating short story by William Trevor (partly anthologised in the new *Chatto Book of Office Life*) in which a nasty married man seduces a naive new secretary, selecting her on the simple criterion that she is plain. "Everyone knew that Gordon Spelle chose girls who were unattractive because he believed such girls, deprived of sex for long periods of time, were an easier bet." Imagine my disappointment.

Presumably the idea was to discuss men's role in modern seduction — assuming that seduction is a modern concept. "Good in bed, hot in the sack, great between the sheets" Johnson said, at the start of the show. "Is that how men like to think of themselves, or are we sick and tired of taking the role of sexual initiator?" But nobody addressed this question, because it didn't deserve an answer.

Seduction doesn't really exist any more, now that women have a choice in the matter. Either a woman gives consent (and shares

## TV REVIEW

then, when "Want a drink?" "Ooh, nice tan" emerged as the most despicable transaction in the modern seduction handbook.

But I am neglecting my duty. You want to meet the guys. Who, for example, is this cocky character with the legs set permanently so wide apart that he will have to be buried in a Y-shaped coffin? This is Will, and he is the star of our show. Twenty-three years old and described as a stockbroker, Will boasts of his technique with the ladies ("I laugh them into bed"), and he is disproportionately proud of his tan. His trade secret is that he sneaks a look at the membership records of the club he frequents, which means he can accost strange women with the words, "By the way, your name is so-and-so, and your address is such-and-such." Evidently this puts women at their ease. Which is strange, really, because it must sound as though he is remanding them in custody.

Will is the centre of attention: we are invited to judge his lifestyle. He sits alongside Warren, a gay man with a five o'clock shadow on his scalp where his hair ought to be, who admits to a similar sexual pattern of one-night stands. Opposite are Howard, a reformed ladies' man with an Essex accent; Robert, a monogamous journalist who looks disgruntled and unconvinced by the whole thing, with his arms folded and legs crossed; and Duncan, whose role is unclear until one reads in the *Daily Mirror* that he represents celibacy. Richard Johnson, as host, encourages a joshing, all-boys-together sort of tone, which ensures that nothing turns nasty, but also ensures that it doesn't get serious or analytical either. At one point he asks Will if he knows where the clitoris is. It is a landmark in gratuitous insult.

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Men with their fingers on the pulse of seduction: from left, Warren, Will, Richard Johnson (host), Howard, Robert and Duncan

the sense of power-play), or she doesn't give consent, which makes it rape. Men still lie to women, of course, but mostly it isn't necessary. The *Men Talk* Casanovas had little to boast about, really, if the transaction is as straightforward as they suggest. Not much effort required, when you are pushing against an open door. The skilful bit must surely be getting to the taxi before ardour cools.

Why was it so fascinating to watch, then? Partly for the reason that, as Somerset Maugham once said, there is hardly anyone whose sexual life, if it were broadcast, would not fill the world at large with surprise and horror. Pure voyeurism plays a large part.

What are they like, these specimens who pride themselves on being the good time that was had by all? As a viewer, you squint at Will in particular, trying to imagine the well-awesed effect of his

laser-beam eye-contact (I clutched at my bowels, did they leap? Did they?), but ultimately understanding perfectly why no woman has attempted to tie him down. It is absorbing, too, to watch the vivid reaction-shots — blank looks, sneers of disbelief, open-mouthed incomprehension — which often say more about these blokes than the actual words they speak.

The language is sometimes quite brutal, though. "On the pull", "Getting in there". When Will is asked whether the girls who go to bed with him are "gullible and a bit naive", he says he prefers them to be "fresh young things with nice firm bodies" (though he is far too young to give this any sinister impact: it needs rheumy eyes and simile drol to the full effect).

Then Warren weighs in with how tiresome it is when you wake up next to a stranger in the morning who demands coffee and a

bath. "That can be very irritating," he avers. Poor baby. Warren has clearly never heard the adage, "It is better to have loved and had to make a cup of Nescafé in the morning than never to have loved at all".

Lust was mentioned just once, when Howard announced (at the risk of sounding "poncey") that he was in love, and that this made the sex very nice indeed. In the inevitable huddle for "Viewer's Favourite", Howard was an easy victor, and admitting to "love" was his master stroke. What a sweet guy: what a cute ear-ring. He seduced the audience brilliantly, by assuring the female viewers that he would always put their pleasure above his own.

But Howard's winning ways (compared with Will's more self-centred bragging) had their negative aspect, too: they raised the awful spectre of the broken heart. Did all Howard's ex-lovers sigh happily when they saw him on

*Men Talk*, thinking, "That was so nice; shame it was only once, but that's life", or did they burst into tears and mutely wave a big beaker of martini at the screen?

There are so many things one doesn't understand, as a mere woman. The only thing that seems obvious is that if there are young men who go "on the pull" and do it successfully, then there must be plenty of young women for them to do it with. Will said quite clearly that he gets all his lovers from the same club, where he is well known, so the pick-up suddenly looks about as remarkable (and sexy) as going shopping in Sainsbury's and buying new breakfast cereal by picking it off the shelf. Hm, your name is Kellogg's All-Bran: fancy coming back to my place? The only difference is in the level of personal commitment required. Because, as any fool knows, All-Bran sticks around for weeks.

## TV PREVIEW

• **Antenna: The Beastly Truth** (Monday, BBC2, 8pm) Winston Churchill is supposed to have said: "Odd things, animals. All dogs look up to you. All cats look down on you. Only a pig looks at you as an equal." American science writer Stephen Budiansky puts forward the controversial notion that Mr Pig has the right idea: animals exploit humans just as much as humans exploit them.

Not totally convincing at first glance, I grant you. Hard to imagine the satisfaction animals derive from vivisection, for example. One remembers an ancient cartoon by Nick Newman: two beagles escaping from an animal experiment laboratory. "This is all very well," says one, "but what are we going to do for tags?"

• **Secret History: The Hidden Holocaust** (Monday, Channel 4, 9pm) Last year's Sunday night series of dramatic monologues, *In My Defence* (BBC2), ended with Edward Woodward in the role of Gougen Yanikian, a real-life Armenian American, who famously shot dead two Turkish diplomats in California in 1973. For years he had been telling the story of the 1915 Armenian massacres ("the hidden holocaust"), and in the end he murdered just to be heard.

*Secret History* tells the whole harrowing story (still denied by official Turkish sources), including contemporary footage of Armenians being marched into the Syrian desert to their deaths. Journalist Robert Fisk describes the discovery of a mass grave containing 50,000 bodies.

• **The True Adventures of Christopher Columbus** (Tuesday, BBC2, 8pm; also Wednesday, 7.50pm; Thursday, 8.10pm; Friday, 7.35pm)

Best-known as Desmond Oliver Dingle of the National Theatre of Brent (who coined the immortal "All the world's a globe"), Patrick Barlow specialises in *1066 and All That* versions of history and is responsible for some of the funniest stuff on stage in the past ten years. This Columbus mini-series recruits Tim Pigott-Smith and Miranda Richardson as Ferdinand and Isabella, and ought to be hilarious. It ought also to prove, incidentally, that all the world's a globe.

• **999** (BBC1, Thursday 9.30pm) This is irresistible, since it includes the amazing story of the South Wales man who recently managed to land a small aircraft after its pilot died suddenly at the controls. I remember the radio news, solemnly describing the man as someone who "had flown before, but only as a passenger".

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Record review: Super Cat, Arturo Sandoval, Joe Henderson, Felicity Lott and Ann Murray

## A quick 'toast' to reggae tradition

Rap music, which rolled out like a tidal wave from the black ghettos of New York and Los Angeles in the 1980s, left reggae all but washed up in its wake.

However, since the emergence of Shabba Ranks as an international star in the 1990s (his album *As Raw As Ever* sold half-a-million copies in America and won a Grammy award), reggae is suddenly big news again. In the vanguard of a new wave of sharp and credible reggae stars is Super Cat whose new album, *Don Dada*, (Columbia 471570 2) is released on Monday.

Mr Cat is self-possessed and businesslike. His hair is cropped close, he wears a huge dome-shaped ring studded with diamonds and he never, ever smiles. Born in Kingston, Jamaica, where he became a leading light of the new "dance-hall" style of reggae, he is aged 29 and lives in New York, where he is hoping to become an even bigger star.

His album, for all its modern cache, is steeped in the old Jamaican DJ tradition of

"toasting", the quick-fire poetry from which, ironically, rap was initially derived. It has a more sprightly feel than conventional reggae, almost rushed at times, and leans less heavily on an over-crunked bass guitar for its distinctive rhythmic effect.

"It's the first album seriously to mix hip hop and reggae," Mr Cat explains, and you can hear what he means right from the opening cut, "Them No Worry We", which features New York rapper Heavy D.

Although it undoubtedly sounds fresh and bears a much closer relevance to the political issues and street sounds of the 1990s, *Don Dada* is depressingly bereft of melody. In much the same way that rap glorifies in its unceasing, declamatory style of vocalise, so the hardcore dance-hall style reduces reggae almost entirely to rhythm and rhyme, all rhyme and no harmony.

For those who prefer to recall the golden era of mainstream reggae there are two



On the hip-hop: Super Cat marries rap with reggae

excellent value compilations released this month. *Dancing on Sunshine — 22 Classic Reggae Hits* (Virgin 515 519 2) collects a bunch of the most obvious Top 20 hits by acts such as UB40 and Chrissie Hynde ("I Got You Babe"), Johnny Nash ("I Can See Clearly Now") and 10cc ("Dreadlock Holiday"), while

DAVID SINCLAIR

**A**n annual crowd-puller at Ronnie Scott's, Arturo Sandoval is a contender for the title of fastest fingers in the universe. "The Flight of the Bumble Bee" might have been written especially for this classically trained trumpeter. Seeing him in full flight in concert is a heady experience, even when — as in recent visits to London — he has been content to play disposable Latin fusion.

Until now the excitement has been lost in the studio. With *I Remember Clifford* (GRP Records GPR 96582), an imaginatively conceived and brilliantly executed tribute to Clifford Brown, the Cuban virtuoso has finally done himself justice.

Brown was aged only 25

when he was killed in a car crash in 1956, but he was already recognised as

one of the most gifted trumpeters since Louis Armstrong.

The quintet he co-led with the drummer Max Roach took

bebop to a level of sophistication rarely attained even by today's prodigies.

Sandoval has more than enough skill to reproduce a chorus note for note; the real trick is to catch the nuances and the rare sense of effortlessness. He rises to the occasion as he reshapes tunes like "Joy Spring" and "Sandu". The other musicians mesh perfectly, with honours going to that underrated saxophonist Ernie Watts.

Sandoval's album has a

slight edge over *Lush Life*

(Verve 511779), Joe Henderson's homage to Billy Strayhorn, who was Duke Ellington's alter ego.

Henderson diligently explores the harmonic possibilities in ten Strayhorn compositions. There is much to admire here, but Henderson's dry, pebbly tone does not always touch the romantic core of Strayhorn's music.

JOHN HIGGINS

## High spirits and raised voices

There are few smoother vocal partnerships than that of Felicity Lott and Ann Murray. There is no hint of upstaging: all is sweet harmony in their second recital on disc, *On Wings of Song* (EMI CDC 7 54411 2). But they owe a lot to the man who is their accompanist and who assembles their recital programmes, Graham Johnson.

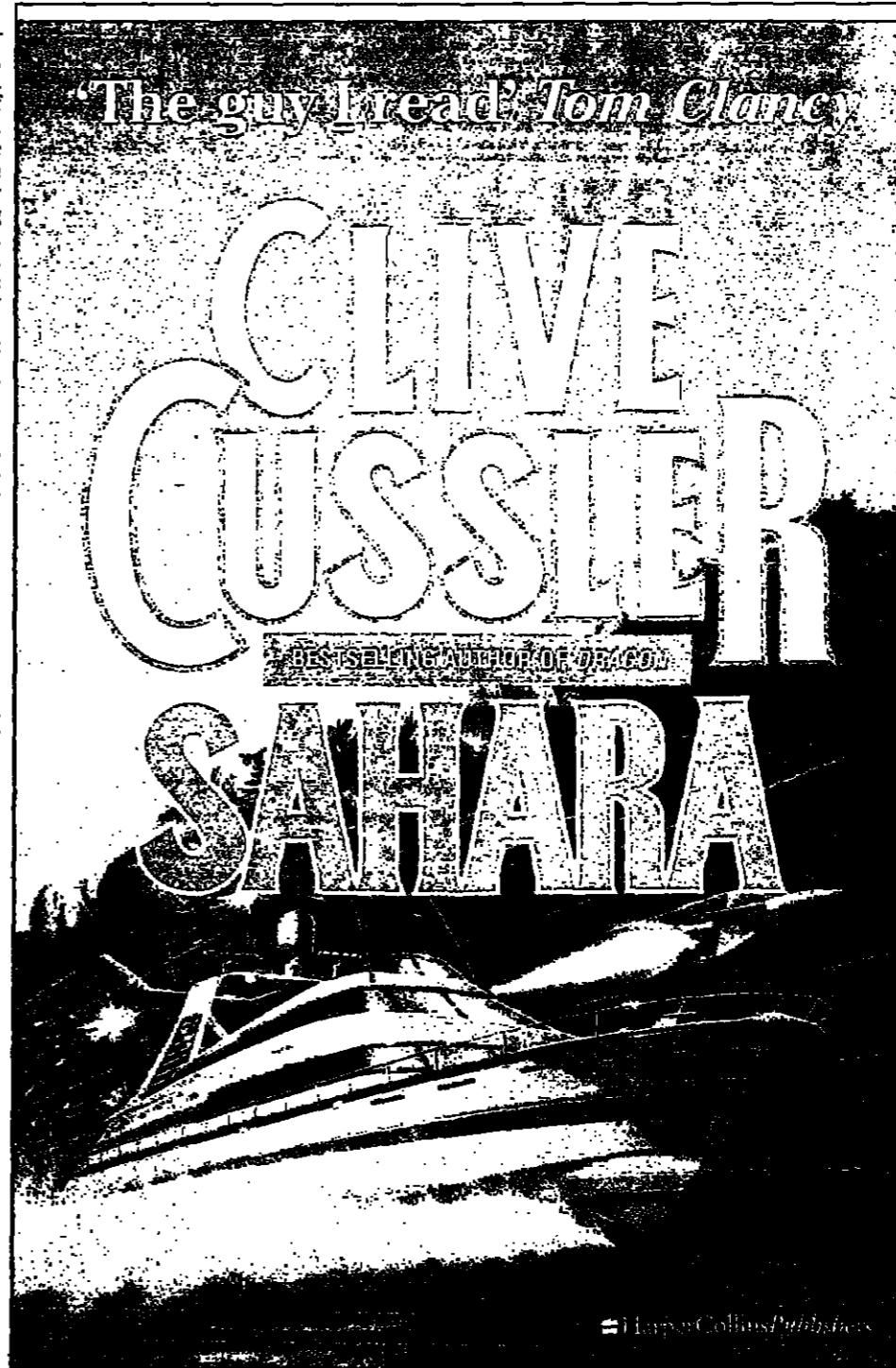
He ensures that affairs never become too bland. A soulful set of Mendelssohn duets is quickly followed by high-spirited Rossini. Cr perhaps mock Rossini, the "Cass Duet", made famous by Schwarzkopf and de los Angeles, may not have been by him.

French song at its most sensuously languid — Gounod and Massenet to the fore — has Bafle, robust and brawny, right on its heels. Britten/

Two of the choicer tracks are among the most curious. The 20-year-old Charles Trenet teams up with Johnny Hess, as a duo inevitably called Charles et Johnny, in a zippy, witty number called "Sous Le Lit de Lili", which really swings. Lyrics by Trenet. And there is a rarity (to me) by Harry Frazee, a Belgian-born Leon Pot in Soho. In London he made famous "Hello, hello, who's your lady friend?", but he had a Paris career as well until he was shot, by his father in a dispute, it is reckoned, over another and much maligned lady friend.

The monsignor's most important operatic recital comes from Mirella Freni on Decca, *Verismo Arias* (433 316-2). She certainly deserves credit for devoting much of the record to Italian composers

CLIVE DAVIS



GUILTY SECRETS: NIGEL WEST

"I'm very keen on the zany humour of Rowan Atkinson and Rik Mayall: they do and say the unthinkable and play with the English language. In everyday conversation people lie; someone will say, 'I don't wish to be offensive, but... and then go on to be profoundly offensive. I like the way that Rowan Atkinson in *Blackadder* and Rik Mayall in *The Young Ones* and *The New Statesmen* expose this kind of nonsense."

• **Murder in the Commons**, by Nigel West (Rupert Atkinson, MP for Torbay), was published yesterday by Macmillan, price £13.99.

HarperCollins Publishers



# Fast-forward to South Bank clip joint

David Toop previews a survey of pop promotional films since their first appearance, back in 1899

Our conception of hell needs constant revision. Little horned devils, flames and pitchforks, a herald in East Cheam, even the idea that hell is other people – these ancient images have been superseded. The new Hades is called pop videos. Conveniently, London's Museum of the Moving Image has assembled a historical overview of the phenomenon for us to contemplate our possible fate in the next world.

The Irn-Bru Pop Video Exhibition claims to be the definitive selection of pop videos since 1899. Definitive is pushing it a bit strong, but think of a pop video which has imprinted itself on your mind during the last 93 years and the Momi exhibition will almost certainly be showing it.

For my taste, another viewing of the Peter Gabriel clip in which his face undergoes rapid transformations into vegetables and train sets would be more than sufficient. Much more. Nevertheless, for anybody with even a passing interest in pop culture, the South Bank is the place to be.

The term "pop video" suggests something electronic designed to enmesh itself digitally into the ceaseless slow programming of satellite television. This is a misapprehension. Pop videos are simply technological updates of promotional clips which aim to illustrate the lyrics of a song or enhance the mood of an in-

This aim is not always successful. The sort of baffling narrative chaos and inane



Nice video, shame about the stage work: ABC in a video-clip for "Poison Arrow", a hit single for the group in 1982, included in the Momi show

innovative as Eisenstein's *Battleship Potemkin*.

Although many of the films shot to accompany pop songs in the Sixties involved young men wandering about in fields, there were flashes of inspiration. Bob Dylan's droll performance of "Subterranean Homesick Blues", extracted from D.A. Pennebaker's *Don't Look Back*, has become famous thanks to the witty television commercials which have imitated it. The

of dry ice and searchlight beams, sprawling on tropical beaches or draped with gorgeous women and ridiculous clothes, these acts blossomed on video. Elsewhere, they were often hopeless.

The ideal environment for artistic material of this particular genre is the corner of a large room. The television sound should be muted and the viewer preferably engaged in a diversionary activity such as dusting, cleaning mirrors or

reading. At Momi, they cover an entire wall, as well as appearing simultaneously on a Laser Juke machine. Visitors are able to press a button for their own choice of video. I chose Madonna's "Vogue" but lost patience while waiting, due to an intervening Billy Joel clip.

All exhibitions must have glass cases. What a pity that pop memorabilia looks so forlorn in such a setting. Madonna's basque, worn for

## ROCK CONCERT

### Walking on airs

Pavement  
Waterfront, Norwich

PAVEMENT have two drummers, members who live on opposite coasts of America and influences, they claim, that extend from Yes to The Fall. They are a mess, but a highly entertaining and deceptively clever one.

Their knowing quirkiness has won them a following in the pop papers and their new album, *Slanted and Enchanted*, has topped the "alternative" charts, with its enigmatic lyrics and ingenious concoction of musical references. But their most distinctive quality is cheeky ambivalence to their job.

The band ambles on stage in a fine collection of ill-fitting trousers and T-shirts and eventually drifts into a performance. At the front stands the songwriter and lead singer, Steve Malkmus, who manages a reasonable imitation of concentration. Behind him, though, his fellow guitarist, bassist and drummers continually threaten chaos. The set is animated by good-natured exchanges about what and when to play, false starts and abrupt ends.

Despite all this, they produce a string of short songs, with melodies which surface from the noise and with arrangements which are restlessly varied. Songs such as "Trigger Cut" and "Summer Babe" make splendidly perverse pop. Others mix a Californian wackiness with New York weirdness. In "Conduit for Sale", Malkmus delivers the monologue of a deranged estate agent, while drummer Bob Nastanovich chants maniacally, "I'm tired."

Their show ends in gently mocking imitation of Peter Townsend: guitars are swung firmly at the speaker cabinets, as if warming up for a game of softball. It is hard not to admire a group that disarm and unnerve simultaneously. If there is a marker for passionate frivolity, Pavement have cornered it.

JOHN STREET

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## THE SUNDAY TIMES

### Classical music scores a hit

Pavarotti packs a stadium as easily as Michael Jackson.

The Olympics will open, not to the sound of Elton John, but to José Carreras.

There is an appetite around for this stuff: classical music is fast becoming popular music.

Even the pop magazine Q covers new classical releases...

David Mills on the rise of classical music – in The Sunday Times Review, tomorrow

Comment: Benedict Nightingale on West End Theatre parking

## Lines too hard to be learnt

You decide to see *Grand Hotel*, or *From a Jack to a King*, or even *The Mousetrap*. So you drive into the West End and, as you have probably done many times before, you look for a single yellow line or a meter bay, knowing that after 6.30 you can freely park your car there for the evening.

But here is a surprise. The single yellow lines in and around the north end of Shaftesbury Avenue all seem to have become double yellow lines. Never mind. There is an empty bay in Covent Garden. You have no reason to suppose that the small print on the meter has just changed, so you do not read it. You park, eat, have a marvellous time at the theatre and then come out to find your car has been clamped or towed away. Somebody, somewhere, has decided to ruin your evening.

That anonymous somebody is presumably by now gleefully rubbing his hands at Camden Town Hall; and it is not just the pleasure of scattered individuals he and his colleagues have recently started to destroy. They are seriously adding to the worries of our recession-hit theatre managers, and all without having consulted or even informed them about their decision to make motorists pay for meters until 8.30pm and to prevent them parking almost anywhere else even after that time. "We found out about these changes by pure accident," says a senior officer at

the Society of West End Theatre. "We are very upset indeed. It could be catastrophic."

There is one plus. At least the changes will add urgency to negotiations currently going on about the opening of London theatres on Sundays. But the minuses far outweigh that possible gain. With top tickets moving towards £30 each, an evening out in the West End is already pretty costly. Now hundreds of parking spaces have been lost. Will theatregoers also tolerate the misery of a vastly intensified battle for the few that are left?

Taxis are elusive and far from cheap. Late-night tubes are sparse and often packed with rowdies. On many lines last trains out of London leave before curtains have fallen. Car-parks are few, cramped, and outrageously expensive. The adjoining borough, Westminster, has no plans to change its 6.30pm deadline or double up its single yellow lines; but it is likely to increase street space for residents and has already let the IRA cov it into banning parking in the Whitehall area. Add an influx of refugee motorists from Camden, and what chance will we have of leaving our cars within reach of St Martin's Lane?

A change in parking regulations may sound trivial, but its implications for the theatre are considerable. Not only will it make potential audiences more inclined to stay at home with their television sets. It is already causing anxieties for

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## FRINGE THEATRE

### Emotional fall-out

walls of the stage and auditorium with white sheets which

suggest the corner of a maze; tall mirrors in two of the doorways add to the unsettling effect. In the mid-Fifties, the period of the play, a shift of feeling appears to have occurred regarding people who were scared by the nuclear blast and survived. Once horrific reminders, and then tourist attractions, their grim stories and present plight began to seem not quite bang up to the minute. In this play two victims experience the bewilderment this causes.

He takes the fatal approach to calamity whereas Man denies the end with crazy

The Elephant New End, Hampstead

Keenan's direction catches in that first scene the distinct and unusual style of writing (translated by David Goodman) that is more interesting than the naturalism which later takes over: poetic, definite about something though it is not clear what. Sheltering under a red umbrella, Jonathan Cope's face is gaunt but not especially mobile, yet his voice is profoundly expressive, sometimes speaking under his breath.

He takes the fatal approach to calamity whereas Man denies the end with crazy

plans for the future. Crop-hair and unshaven, with his striped pyjamas giving him an unloving resemblance to European victims, Alex Harland harangues his wife, the doctors, the nephew and finally us with his resolve to go back to that unnamed town and show his scars once more.

Betsysluu keeps him on the river at a price that reflects a saving of many hundreds of pounds.

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bright and airy with large French-style windows which open to offer splendid views of the banks of the Nile. All cabins are fully air-conditioned and have private bathrooms.

The MS Ra

Recently built in Britain, the MS Ra is a large cruise ship that can accommodate up to 140 passengers. She is an excellently designed, sleek vessel offering all the benefits of modern high technology. Facilities on board include a large restaurant, lounge, bar, sun deck with swimming pool, jacuzzi, and a small health club. The cabin accommodation is

January 25 ..... £550  
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Single suppl. ..... £150  
Upper Deck suppl. ..... £50

Excursions are included daily. Most are taken in the early part of the morning or in the late afternoon in order to avoid the uncomfortable midday heat.

Flight Arrangements

Flights are from Gatwick departing in the morning.

Voyages Jules Verne, 21 Dorset Square, London NW1 6QC

TIM KEENAN's Wave Theatre is "dedicated to producing high quality English-language versions of modern Japanese plays". The opening production is a logical choice, a play by Bessyayana Minoru showing the psychological effects of the Hiroshima bomb and first produced in Tokyo in 1962. It is described as a landmark in 20th-century Japanese theatre, and British audiences can pick up something of its shock effect, because, psychologically, Hiroshima is a landmark for all.

The director has hung the

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# Magical mystery scoop

National Ice-cream week has prompted a Torquay parlour to add yet another flavour to its novel lick list, Fiona Beckett says

National Ice-cream week starts today, and in Peter and Suzanne Redstone's Torquay ice-cream parlour, Roccombe Farm, it is being marked by a revival of some of their best-loved specials — such as Licorice and Pernod, Orange and Cardamom and Roccombe Ripple — and a new mystery flavour.

Since they started offering daily specials on June 16, 1988, the Redstones have dreamt up more than 1,450 different varieties.

Their quest for novelty has led to some bizarre combinations. There have been Coconut Malibu Pineapple, Apple Calvados Ginger Biscuits, Amaretto Kit Kat, Clotted Cream Mango Cumin, Fudge Fingers Peanut Butter, Nutmeg Rice Pudding and the unforgettable Banana, Honey and Peanut Ripple, and Jelly Worm.

If you can imagine a flavour, the Redstones are likely to have realised it. There have been ice-creams named after 1960s songs — Mellow Yellow (saffron and Southern Comfort) and A Whiter Shade of Pale (pure mint with white chocolate chip and meringue), and after Agatha Christie novels — Sparkling Cyanide (champagne, brandy and toasted almonds) and Orient Express (Turkish delight and pistachio).

There have been both triumphs (honey and Toblerone) and disasters (Marmite and peanut butter), although Mr Redstone, an ice-cream fanatic, is reluctant to admit that there is any such thing as a failed ice-cream. "No ice-cream can be unspeakably bad," he says. "There's always someone who will want to try it. Admittedly, with the Marmite and peanut butter there were only two, the pregnant lady who begged us to make it, and one of our relief milkers."

"We tried a smoked trout, avocodo and wild mint ice-cream a while back. Let's say it was a flavour tasted more than it was bought."

The Redstones started in the ice-

cream business five years ago to supplement the income from their small organic dairy farm in the nearby village of Stokesteiginehead. "I had always wanted to make the kind of ice-cream I remember having as a child in New England," says Mrs Redstone, who is American. "We kept on going on about it until our eldest daughter, Rebecca, said: 'You always say what you want to do and you never do it. That was it.'

They opened a small shop in Torquay for the summer, where they made ice-cream in front of the customers. "We thought if we showed people it was freshly made using pure ingredients they would want to buy it," Mr Redstone says. The shop was so successful that they had to close early because they'd run out of ingredients. They found permanent premises the following year and have not looked back.

The specials started by accident when Mr Redstone, bored with the existing range of flavours, flung some cinnamon and biscuits into the basic mixture and created a new ice-cream. The next day he produced coffee chocolate chip and the following day melon. "After a few days people started coming in and asking what the special was," he says. "It suddenly clicked that this was fantastic fun."

The wackiness of the Roccombe Farm product range distracts from the fact that the ice-cream is seriously good. The base is made with full cream milk from the Redstones' herd of grass-fed Jersey cows, fresh double cream, free-range eggs and unrefined cane sugar, and contains no artificial additives or colourings.

The basic range of 60 flavours which the Redstones supply to more than 200 shops and restaurants includes standard favourites such as vanilla, chocolate, chocolate chip and super chocolate choc chip, strawberries 'n' cream and bananas 'n' cream, a sinfully alcoholic rum and raisin, and a lemon meringue which would melt the

heart of the most implacable ice-cream phobic. It costs 80-85p for a single cone and from £2.95 to £3.50 for a half-litre tub.

At their own small corner shop opposite the town hall the smell of freshly baked cones draws in a steady stream of customers — from elderly locals in search of the flavours of their youth to a gaggle of summer language students. Brightly painted Jersey cows adorn the walls, hand-painted by Mrs Redstone who also designs all the packaging and merchandising material. The Redstones strongly believe in providing a year-round service to the locals, not just to the tourists.

Recently expanded into frozen yoghurts, creating a whole new world of flavour combinations. "What we've realised is that ice-cream can not only be good, it can be fantastic," Mr Redstone says. "I like banana. Fresh banana ice-cream is one of life's peak experiences."

While the mixture is setting, melt the butter in a small heavy frying pan, add the sugar and the thinly sliced carrots. Stir well then cover the pan and cook on a low heat for about ten minutes. Uncover the pan and continue to cook over a gentle heat until the carrots are sticky and caramelised (keep stirring and take care they don't catch). Allow the mixture to cool but not to harden.

Beat the semi-solid ice-cream by hand or in a food processor then fold in the carrots and return the mixture to the freezer. Allow the ice-cream to mellow for about 20 minutes in the fridge before serving.

National Ice-cream Week runs from today until August 2.

Roccombe Farm shop is at 123 Union Street, Castle Circus, Torquay (0803 293996). Opening hours are 9.30am-5.45pm Mon-Fri, 9.30am-6pm Sat, 2-6pm Sun, and evenings from 7-11pm during the summer.

Roccombe Farm ice-cream is also stocked by a number of speciality and health food shops, including Harrods and Selfridges.



Cool taste sensation: Roccombe Farm's unique flavours have included Coconut Malibu Pineapple, Clotted Cream Mango Cumin and the enticing Jelly Worm



Dripping with ideas: Suzanne and Peter Redstone

Redstone who also designs all the packaging and merchandising material. The Redstones strongly believe in providing a year-round service to the locals, not just to the tourists.

Earlier this year the couple's enterprise was recognised when they won the ADAS Food Marketing Award. Still more prestigious in the eyes of the locals, they have acted as consultants to *The Archers*, providing the technical expertise behind Pat's organic ice-cream making venture. They have made ice-creams and sorbets for the five-star Imperial at Torquay, including pink grapefruit and gorgonzola (happily not combined), and have invited well-known chefs, such as Shauna Hill of Gidleigh Park, to create ice-creams for them (a comparatively restrained prunes in armagnac).

But nothing gives the Redstones quite such a buzz as creating a new ice-cream themselves. They have

recently expanded into frozen yoghurts, creating a whole new world of flavour combinations. "What we've realised is that ice-cream can not only be good, it can be fantastic," Mr Redstone says. "I like banana. Fresh banana ice-cream is one of life's peak experiences."

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## Taste of Tuscany

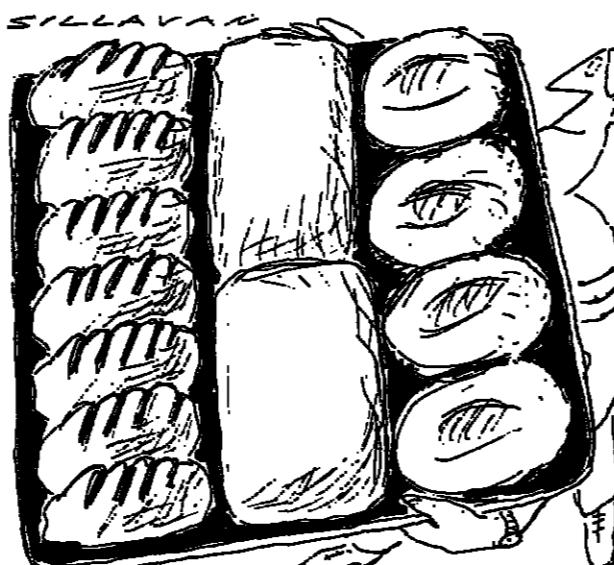
### Daily bread sent from heaven

AT 8.30am the customers gathered outside the Panificio Dianda & Rugani stir slightly, interrupting their conversations to look expectantly at the closed door. African beggars edge closer to the fringes of the crowd, their hopes raised by the knowledge that this bakery is the busiest shop in Lucca and pickings will be as good as they can be.

Suddenly the blind is snapped up, the door flung open and, with a series of *buon giorno* greetings, the jostling crowd streams into the shop. Three grizzled-haired

men dressed in white take refuge on a platform raised behind the counter, which consists of several glass cases packed with a dozen or more varieties of Italian bread, two heavy-duty weighing scales and a cash register. At their backs the wall is lined with packets of dried pasta. Behind the customers, glass-fronted cupboards house rows of biscuit boxes. The day begins.

Or, rather, the commercial part of the day does. The making and baking of the bread has been going on most of the night, and in a room



behind the shop, glimpsed briefly from time to time as another great tray of focaccia (flat bread made with olive oil) is brought in through the swing door, youths in white caps and overalls scurry to and fro, filling trays and pulling freshly baked loaves from the ovens, joking and chattering.

At most times of the morning, and again from 3.30 until 7pm, the shop is packed. The door barely closes on a *signora* with fur coat and poodle, before it opens again to let in an elderly gentleman in a trilby, who is greeted by a *"buon giorno, Professore!"* as he takes his place at the second baking this afternoon after the second baking. A large, chewy, dense-textured loaf, it will last at least three days and is the best I have tasted in the area. The matron decides against it and the weighing machine needles deep at the counter.

The staff work like demons, sawing great slabs of focaccia two feet square with a long knife. Massive loaves of *pane integrale* set the needle swinging on the weighing machine. *Il Professore* tucks a couple of twisted rolls and a thin pipe of saltless Tuscan bread into his briefcase before shuffling out through the crowd. The noise level soars.

The servers' grey hair belies their energy. They catch the eye of every customer before greeting him or her individually. In the meantime weighing out half a kilogram of white bread, or bundling three ciabatta loaves into a paper bag. Shouted orders through the swing doors quickly bring relief supplies of refilled trays, and a piece of hot, crisp focaccia as big as a table top is carried in by two men. The place is a mixture between a cocktail party and the London futures market. Everyone seems to know everyone and news is exchanged at full volume while we all jostle for a

place at the front of the counter.

I wait with bated breath

while a fat matron in black hovers indecisively over the last loaf of wholemeal bread, which I had hoped to secure. *Pane integrale* runs out by mid-morning and Lucca is too far from my house for me to make a hopeful return trip this afternoon after the second baking. A large, chewy, dense-textured loaf, it will last at least three days and is the best I have tasted in the area. The matron decides against it and the weighing machine needles deep at the counter.

Most of the time I don't need help — I've got Jack. He cooks a mean salmon and he's very military about it. The salmon comes to the boil, simmers for three or four minutes, is left for a while, stripped of its skin then decorated with cucumber. I happily leave all that to him and concentrate on more bovine occupations like steaming the potatoes.

I have someone who comes in during the day, and sometimes she does me a pretty-looking salad or a nice dessert. For the last dinner party she made me a leek and potato soup which was supposed to be eaten cold, but I didn't know that. Now, nothing ever heats up properly in my microwave and that soup was in and out like Ronnie Biggs. We ended up eating it tepid, which I'm sure is incredibly dangerous, but I haven't heard from any dead guests yet.

That was the dinner party when my daughter's A-level books were all over the dining table, which meant we had to eat in the kitchen. It was perfect — none of that scurrying through, like a startled vole, with potatoes that aren't quite hot. I simply passed things over the counter and joined in the conversation. There were only eight of us, so it was easy.

Yes, I've got a hostess trolley. Yes, it's in the cellar — your William Morris teak-and-mahogany-engraved-with-marquetry hostess trolley hasn't yet been invented.

Jennifer, my friend from America, brought me over this brilliant *Better Homes Cook Book* which has almost revolutionised my feelings about entertaining. Now, I'm not awfully numerate and I'm recipe-blind, and things just

## Friends and three veg

### ENTERTAINING AT HOME

MAUREEN LIPMAN



Maureen Lipman: "I'm not numerate and I'm recipe-blind"

swim in my head when I look at half a pound of this or that, but in this book everything's measured in cups or little measuring spoons. It's family, I just do tea or coffee. We have bagels, smoked salmon and cream cheese, chopped herring and soft roes. Then I make scrambled eggs to go with the smoked salmon and smoked beef, which is the nearest equivalent to bacon I know.

Sometimes Jack goes into the delicatessen in Hampstead Garden Suburb and says, in a loud voice, "Have you any Jewish bacon?" and stops on its heels.

We are pretty hopeless on meat. Jack doesn't drink and neither do I because I suffer from migraine. We were both brought up in houses where nobody drank, so we got the advocation every so often, or

whisky if the men came, and sherry for the women. Drink's not a tradition in our family.

I make a real effor with wine because I'm not good at it and because Jack's so totally uninterested. Before guests come I spend an hour shoving bottles into the freezer and then forgetting they're there. Sometimes they explode or they come out in blocks. As soon as somebody's glass is empty I fill it up. It's only when I go to other people's houses that I realise this is not how it's done and that I'm overcompensating again.

On New Year's Eve I which is always chaotic. I tend to ask everyone I know, though the people I've owed dinner to for ages always seem to assume when I ring them, that I want something. I do a chili, or something similar, and a hot punch with all the colds: salmon salad and stuff like that. We end up with Denis King (a former member of the vocal-instrumental group the King Brothers) at the piano and have a big sing-song. We each have a song sheet and sing "I saw the old homestead" and then do with gestures, without the words. It sounds jolly silly, but it does mean that someone like Denis Norden, who hates going out on New Year's Eve, will come along because he knows it will be a knees-up and the music won't send him home with a haemorrhage.

Maureen Lipman's salmon loaf

1 cup chopped onion

1 tsp dried dillweed

1 tbsp margarine

1 slightly beaten egg

1 cup Matzo meal

1/4 cup milk

1 1/2 oz can pink salmon

Cook onion, dillweed and dash of pepper in the margarine until tender, then combine egg, Matzo meal, milk and salmon, mix well. Put in a loaf tin, bake in 350F oven for 30-35 minutes. The recipe says

serve with a cheese sauce, but I substitute Hellman's mayonnaise. What I've got I use.

Interview by Paddy Burt

• Maureen Lipman is married to writer and playwright Jack Rosenthal. They live in North London.

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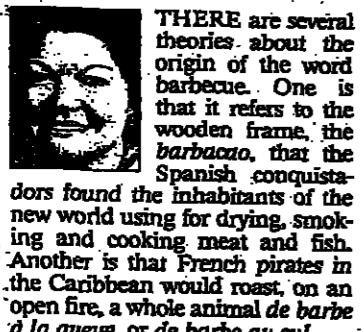
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ANNE WILLIAMS  
Panificio Dianda & Rugani, Via S. Lucia 20, Lucca (0583 36285). Anne Williams is a food writer based in Tuscany.

July 25 1992

# Barbecues with that extra bite

Frances Bissell, the Times cook, presents some favourite recipes for perfect outdoor eating — using meat, fish and cheese



THERE are several theories about the origin of the word barbecue. One is that it refers to the wooden frame, the *barbacoa*, that the Spanish conquistadors found the Indians of the new world using for drying, smoking and cooking meat and fish. Another is that French pirates in the Caribbean would roast, on an open fire, a whole animal *de barbe à la queue, ou de barbe au cul*.

However, it must be some instinctive urge that turns our thoughts to barbecues. Unlike our cave-dwelling ancestors who cooked outside over an open fire in all weathers, we can do it in comfort and style, waiting for a calm, warm day or evening.

What appeals to us, I am sure, is the same appealing smell which comes from the sugars in the food browning and caramelising in the heat of the charcoal. That is the essence of the barbecue. There are all the extras, of course, the gadgets, the equipment, the folklore surrounding the best way of getting the fire to the right heat, but in the end, it is the smell we all remember.

As a child, I lived in South Africa for a couple of years, and one of my most vivid memories is of a barbecue in a pine forest outside Cape Town with some neighbours: French, Belgians and Italians. A large fire was built, surrounded by a stone border, and over it was a set a trestle barbecue. Flasks of chianti were passed around, *salami* was sliced "to be going on with" while the meat was cooking. This was indeed a true *brazu wels*, with lamb cutlets, fillet of beef, spatchcocked chickens and, above all, spicy Italian sausages. The meats were charred on the outside and juicy on the inside; rare-rare for the beef and lamb, thoroughly cooked for the chicken and sausages.

These days, I prefer a more varied barbecue diet. Fish and many kinds of vegetables are perfectly suited to the barbecue, and I like to barbecue a dinner for the two of us on a small, disposable barbecue, which we set on the roof terrace of our flat. The last time I cooked such a meal, we had grilled peppers and aubergines. The peppers I quartered and seeded; the aubergines I sliced and brushed with oil. When they were done, I peeled the peppers, cut them and the aubergines into strips, seasoned with salt, pepper, lemon juice and plenty of fruity olive oil, and served this as a starter.

Salmon fillets, grilled on one side only, followed and after that a piece of skirt steak, which, for me, is the best piece of beef for barbecuing. It is of uniform thickness, about 1in/2.5cm thick, has some marbling, and a good flavour. I also think it has an excellent texture. Others might find it too tough though. A marinade is not essential, but it is a good idea to brush meat and fish with oil while it is cooking; as this prevents it from sticking to the grill.

Apart from peppers and aubergines, many other vegetables grill well: slices of sweet potato, courgettes, field mushrooms and corn on the cob. Fruit, too, can be grilled, or wrapped in foil and baked in the charcoal. Baked apples, pears or peaches are very good, particularly if cored or stoned and filled with almond paste or dried fruit and nuts mixed with honey and butter. Thick slices of mango and pineapple can be brushed with butter and grilled over the coals, to be served with cold yoghurt or crème fraîche.

**Unilateral salmon**  
(serves 6)

6 x 4-6oz/10-170g pieces of salmon fillet  
extra virgin olive oil  
juice and grated zest of two oranges  
1 onion, peeled and thinly sliced  
seasoning

Put the chicken wings in a large bowl. Mix the rest of the ingredients and pour over the meat, turning to coat thoroughly. Cover, refrigerate and leave overnight.

When ready to grill the meat, drain the pieces, letting the marinade drip back. Grill the chicken wings, brushing with the marinade from time to time. Remove and pile on a platter. Boil marinade for 3-4 minutes; serve with the chicken.

**New potatoes and giant garlic baked in parcels**  
(serves 6)

2-3 dozen new potatoes  
6-12 cloves giant garlic  
extra virgin olive oil  
freshly ground black pepper  
coarse sea salt

Scrub or wash (do not peel) the potatoes. Peel the garlic. Cut six large circles of foil and brush with olive oil. Divide the potatoes and garlic among the six sheets and sprinkle with salt and pepper and a little more olive oil. Draw edges together, double fold, and seal parcels like cornish pasties, folding the two points up so that the juices do not leak out. Bake for about 40 minutes.

**Grilled goats cheese on country bread**  
(serves 8)

8 pieces of country bread  
1 large garlic clove, peeled  
extra virgin olive oil  
8 slices of goats' cheese or whole *Crottin de Chavignol* or similar

Shell the prawns. Discard the bacon rind and cut each rasher in half. Wrap each prawn in a piece of bacon and thread on to skewers, alternating with small vegetables.

Toast one side of the bread only. Rub the toasted side quickly with garlic, brush with olive oil, and put cheese on each piece of bread. Put back on the grill rack, and toast the other side of the bread. Alternatively, take firm, round bread rolls, halve, and hollow out enough crumb to take the goats' cheese. Brush the rolls with oil, and rub with garlic. Toast each side until browned and the cheese melting.



DIANA LEADBETTER

FRANCE

GREAT CLASSICS

PATE A CHOUX

THIS recipe for choux pastry can play a part in a variety of dishes, from *amuse gueules* to *petits fours*, from *parisette* to *pices montées*. Chocolate éclairs, profiteroles, gâteau St Honoré, religieuses, Paris-Brest, and *croquembouche*, as well as savoury choux buns and *gougeres*; all need a choux paste to begin with.

Properly, this is a paste, not a pastry. It can be made sweet or plain. Grated cheese can be folded in to make a savoury, such as a *gougeres*. Spoonfuls of sweet choux paste can be deep-fried and dusted with icing sugar and served with a fruit sauce. Small choux buns can be split open and filled with creams, purées or mousse, or served as a savoury hors-d'œuvre.

Whipped cream flavoured with fruit liqueur, grated chocolate, espresso, honey and whisky, crushed raspberries, apple purée and Calvados will fill large or small choux buns or cakes topped with icing sugar, glazed water icing, caramel, melted chocolate or toasted almonds.

**Choux paste**

(makes 1 large choux ring, 8 individual choux buns or 24 small ones)

1pt/140ml water  
2oz/60g butter  
pinch of salt  
2½oz/75g flour  
2 free-range eggs, lightly beaten

In a saucepan bring the water, butter and salt to the boil, and tip in the flour at once, stirring vigorously with a wooden spoon until the mixture dries to the point where it leaves the sides of the pan. Remove from heat and beat in the eggs, a little at a time, making sure each addition is thoroughly incorporated. Keep stirring until you have a smooth paste. If you wish to keep the mixture for use later, cover the surface with damp grease-proof paper to stop a crust forming. Otherwise, proceed with the cooking immediately.

The oven should be heated to 180°C/350°F, gas mark 4. Spoon or pipe the paste in small heaps, larger heaps or sausage shapes, depending on what you wish to make, on to the lightly greased baking sheet with space between, as they expand on baking. Bake for about 10-15 minutes for small buns, 25-30 minutes for a *gougeres* or Paris-Brest. Turn off heat and allow to cool with the oven door open. Remove from oven, split and fill with your chosen filling.

F.B.

Split the croissants, or cut a cap off the *broches*, and remove some of the crumb. Boil the honey and butter until they form a syrup and then brush inside the pastry and out. Fill with one of the fruit combinations shown in the recipe. Close and secure the pastry with cocktail sticks, and dust with icing sugar. Grill for a few minutes either side. Serve with a bowl of cool yoghurt or crème fraîche.

**Grilled fruit croissants or broches**  
(serves 8)

8 croissants or broches  
3tbsp clear honey  
3oz/85g unsalted butter  
icing sugar  
choose fruit from: sliced bananas and apple dipped in lemon juice; mixed raspberries and blueberries; stoned cherries and sliced strawberries; sliced peaches or nectarines and strawberries

## Summer taste is in the pink

Robin Young  
urges a rosé rethink



Fresh and fruity: Rosé wines, unjustly despised in Britain, go with almost everything

men rosé with grilled steak.

Pink wines are among the most useful for serving out of doors. Indeed, they go so well with picnics that in a blind tasting of picnic wines organised by *Taste*, the gourmet's magazine, Mateus Rosé was picked as the panel's favourite flavour.

Similarly, it took a report in *Wine* magazine to draw attention to the fact that pink wines make some of the best matches not only to nut dishes but to the modern repertoire of vegetable, cheese, eggs, pasta, pulses and fish.

The explanation seems to be that good pink wines combine freshness and fruit with a little more tannin, weight and colour than most whites. Add to

that the fact that pink wines' easy-going and thirst-quenching yet flavourful style makes them ideal for drink with heavily spiced dishes, and you have versatility that should not be ignored.

Rosé wine is seldom a blend of white and red wine, though that is the cheap, cheerful and often nasty way of doing it. Within the European Community, quality rosé wines should, theoretically, always be made solely from black grapes, with the solitary exception of champagne, which can include chardonnay. It is mostly done by the saignée method, leaving the skins, which carry the pigments and most of the tannins, only briefly in contact with the fermenting juice.

A ll pink wines should be drunk well chilled, and almost all should be drunk young, so that their refreshing, youthful fruitiness is still in its prime. Few rosés improve with age, the most notable exception being fine vintage rosé champagnes, which might take a decade to reach their peak.

High summer is plainly the high season for pink wines, but if you buy now do not think that you have to see them off before the end of the school holidays. Rosé wines are just as welcome in an Indian summer, when white wines can seem too skinny and acidic, yet most reds still too full-bodied to enjoy to the full.

The rosés are wines to reawaken your interest in neglected charms, and to offer to people who claim that they do not like wine. After all, many of us were weaned from lemonade or beer by Mateus Rosé or pink Lambrusco. It is just that people forgot to tell us that not all rosés are semi-sweet beginners' stuff.

### Best buys

- Domaine de Lalande Merlot Rosé 1991, *Vin de Pays d'Aude*. Waitrose, £2.95. Soft, fruity. Drink on its own or with light meals.
- Domaine le Puits Rosé 1991, *Vin de Pays des Côtes de Gascogne*. *Majestic Wine Warehouses*, £3.39. Pale rose-pink with scent of fresh currants. Excellent with pork sausages, grilled or smoked trout, or with quiche.
- Forment Rosé Syrah 1991, *Vin de Pays d'Oc*. *Victoria Wine Company*, £3.49. Fairly good for barbecues. Bottle will please lamp-makers.
- Mateus Rosé 1992. *McLaren Vale Grenache*. Odellsons, £4.99. Raspberry flavours characterise this Geoff Merrill wine from Australia. Excellent with poultry dishes, hot or cold, and steak.
- Domaine de St Martin de la Garrigue Cuvée Tradition 1991, *Vin de Pays des Cévennes*. *Adnams of Southwold*, Suffolk, £4.15. Lipstick hue, fruity taste. Good with spicy Chinese food, or lamb.
- *Mere de la Roussette* 1990, *Bandol Rosé*. *Yapp Brothers*, Mere, Wiltshire, £7.15. Crisp, spicy and admirably suited to Mediterranean-style cuisine.

## EXCLUSIVE LATE BARGAINS

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GATWICK				BIRMINGHAM			
30 July	Portugal	14	Flight Only	£99	01 Aug	Tenerife	S/C £299
01 Aug	Malaga	7	Studio	S/C £239	01 Aug	Majorca	14 Hotel B/B £309
02 Aug	Costa Brava	14	Apt	S/C £194	04 Aug	Crete	7 Studio S/C £229
03 Aug	Corfu	14	Studio	S/C £269	06 Aug	Athens	7 Apt S/C £229
04 Aug	Crete	7	Hotel	B/B £279	06 Aug	Portugal	14 Studio S/C £309
05 Aug	Majorca	14	Hotel	B/B £319	08 Aug	Majorca	14 Studio S/C £289
06 Aug	Portugal	14	Studio	S/C £309	09 Aug	Portugal	7 Studio S/C £239
08 Aug	Malaga	7	Studio	S/C £229	10 Aug	Corfu	7 Apt S/C £229
08 Aug	Majorca	14	Hotel	B/B £319	11 Aug	Zante	14 Apt S/C £329
09 Aug	Sth. of France	14	Camping	S/C £164	11 Aug	Crete	14 Studio S/C £309
11 Aug	Zante	7	Apt	S/C £259	13 Aug	Athens	7 Apt S/C £249
12 Aug	Rhodes	7	Studio	S/C £279	13 Aug	Portugal	7 Studio S/C £229
14 Aug	Minorca	14	Studio	S/C £299	14 Aug	Tenerife	7 Studio S/C £239
16 Aug	Gerona	7/14	Flight Only	£74	14 Aug	Minorca	14 Studio S/C £279
16 Aug	Costa Brava	7	Camping	S/C £174	17 Aug	Corfu	14 Studio S/C £279
17 Aug	Skoplos	7	Studio	S/C £279	19 Aug	Rhodes	14 Studio S/C £274
19 Aug	Rhodes	14	Studio	S/C £264	26 Aug	Rhodes	14 Studio S/C £309
25 Aug	Zante	14	Apt	S/C £269			
26 Aug	Lefkada	7	Studio	S/C £279			
27 Aug	Zante	14	Studio	S/C £254			

STANSTED				PONTIN'S UK HOLIDAYS			
30 July	Portugal	7/14	Flight Only	£99	1/4 Aug	Blackpool	H/B £69
01 Aug	Majorca	7	Studio	S/C £219	6/12 Aug	Weymouth	H/B £99
02 Aug	Costa Brava	14	Hotel	B/B £284		ADULTS ONLY	
03 Aug	Corfu	14	Studio	S/C £264	15/22/29 Aug	Caribbean	10 Fly/Cruise F/B £925
04 Aug	Zante	7	Studio	S/C £239	Plus Miami Extension	3 R/O £122	

BRISTOL				COACH HOLIDAYS (regional pick-up)			
05 Aug	Rhodes</						

## CHILDREN

# Adventure knows no handicap

Physically demanding sports can be fun for disabled children. Jane Bidder reports



Splashing about: a special-needs child plays happily at the Thames Valley Adventure Playground, near Maidenhead, Berkshire

**A**t the age of 12, Cheryl Hall can sail a 24ft boat and paddle a canoe with ease. She is an adept rock-climber and a past master of the assault course. All this despite having cerebral palsy and having to spend her life in a wheelchair.

Such activities are not the most obvious for handicapped children, but they are just four of many outdoor pursuits offered during week-long or weekend holidays at the Churchtown Farm Outdoor Environmental and Education Centre in Bodmin, Cornwall.

The centre, run by the Spastics Society, and others like it (such as the Ranch Adventure Centre near Harlech, north Wales), are reminders that there are places to take both physically and mentally handicapped children where staff don't blanch at the sight of a wheelchair.

"Most activities can be adapted to suit all skills," says Martyn Overton, principal of Churchtown Farm, which charges £60 to £100 for a weekend. "Our boat has a hoist system which lifts wheelchairs and is adapted for steering. The canoes have extra padding so that wheelchairs are not always necessary. And there is always one able-bodied person on board."

For rock climbing, Churchtown Farm uses harnesses and one-to-one staff attention (many handicapped and special-needs children can use other limbs even if they cannot move their legs). Even the abseiling equipment is designed to accommodate wheelchairs.

The assault course, an American idea, incorporates a zipwire harness which takes participants from one gentle height to another. "We've never had any serious accidents," says Mr Overton, whose centre is fully insured. "And it's a wonderful confidence-booster for everyone."

Not all weekends are so physical. Churchtown Farm has just started its Activate club (for 11 to 17-year-olds), which meets every month to socialise and raise funds.

"They started by filming and interviewing each other," says Rebecca Butler, Cheryl's mother. "It was brave – and funny – considering the person who was holding the camera had cerebral palsy so the

film shook violently, and, because most of the children have speech defects, it was virtually impossible to understand the interviews. But it made them take charge and do something completely different."

If activity weekends are not your child's style, how about an afternoon on a wheelchair roundabout to which chairs are safely clamped? Or a 9ft slide with a ramp and a large bed on swings? These are on offer – free – at the Thames Valley Adventure Playground charity in Taplow, near Maidenhead, Berkshire. There are nearly two acres of playground, with equipment designed for special-needs children and a purpose-built building (on one level) housing refreshment and cloakrooms. The playground (open Tuesday to Saturday) employs four full-time staff.

There are similar playgrounds in London, Stafford, Guildford, Liverpool, Scotland and Northern Ireland (for more details, contact the Handicapped Adventure Playground Association, details below).

Eight-year-old Laura Poole is there for her Sunday morning rides in Kent with the local branch of Riding for the Disabled. Laura, who is physically and mentally handicapped, started last September and is already pony-mad.

"We first thought of the idea when a friend with a pony offered her a ride," says her mother, Nicola. "To our surprise, she took to it without hesitation. Although she finds it hard to balance on the ground, she has perfect balance on horseback."

One of the biggest pluses for Laura has been to increase her confidence. "It's something that she can do and which her younger sister and brother can't," Mrs Poole says. "That means a lot, particularly as her six-year-old sister is already pony-mad."

Riding for the Disabled also offers carriage driving (children can start from as young as six). "This is particularly suitable for heavy people or those who would rather not be on a horse."

For more socially orientated weekend activities, Nencap has 40 junior Gateway clubs (for children from the age of seven upwards) which offer dance, art, music, adapted games, drama and crafts.

to a minimum (from nothing to £3 per ride) by relying on fully insured stables and private owners to provide tuition and horses.

Riding is particularly suited to the disabled because it brings them to the same eye-level as everyone else," a spokesman for the charity says. "Nor are there any problems with kerbs or access. The sport can exercise muscles which might not otherwise be used, and it provides a competitive social element." All riders have to provide a doctor's letter, though, and epileptics are generally discouraged.

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Radar (the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation) addresses this problem in its handbook "Holidays in the British Isles 1992" (£4.50), which also covers suggested days out. Examples include the American Adventure

theme park in Ilkeston, Derbyshire (which offers wheelchair loan and staff assistance), and Kingdom of the Sea (complete with ocean tunnel) which is fully accessible.

The Spastics Society has a free helpline phone number suggesting day outings (0800 626216). It recommends the book, *Access in London: a guide to London* (Robert Nicholson, £3.50), which includes sections on the home counties. The Holiday Care Service, a charity which provides accommodation and day-out advice for handicapped children and adults, will also recommend amusements with good access such as Paullton Park, near Southampton (fairground, small train and country museum) which has tarmac paths to take wheelchairs and disabled loos.

Radar, another charity for the disabled, gives similar advice for days out and longer holidays. It is also worth contacting your local town leisure department. Berkshire county council, for instance, pub-

MARC ASPLAND

## Events

### LONDON

□ Ira-Bray pop video exhibition: For older children, the story of pop video from the first film "talkie" with Al Jolson to Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody". Museum of the Moving Image, South Bank, London SE1. From today, £5, child £4. Family ticket (two adults and up to four children) £10. Further information on 071-401 2636.

□ Bethnal Green workshops: Open to all children over the age of three, a series of summer workshops: Mondays and Wednesdays, board games; Tuesdays, a museum trail; Thursdays, looking at children's books in the exhibition "Trash or Treasure"; Saturdays, art workshops. Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, London E2. July 27-Aug 29. Further information on 081-981 1711.

### NATIONWIDE

□ Barton on the water: For junior school age groups – Wednesday, 10am-12.30pm, pond dipping, bring wellingtons. For all age groups – Friday, 10am-noon, nest-making workshop. Under-11s should be accompanied by an adult.

Barton Clay Pits, The Old Boat House, Barton-upon-Humber, South Humberside. July 29-31. Further information on 0652 33283.

□ Castle Eden mystery: Monday, guided trail to find the park secret. Wednesday, It's a Knockout for all the family. Friday, make and fly a kite. Meet at Station House visitors' centre, Castle Eden Walkway Country Park, near Thorpe Thewles, Cleveland. July 27, 29, 31, 2pm. Further information on 0740 3001.

□ Chatham challenges: British industrial working-horse trials, taking visitors back to the age of real horse power in an 18th/19th century setting. The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent. Tomorrow, 10am-6pm, £2.50, child £1.50, under-fives free. Further details on 0634 812551.

□ Helmsley battle: The largest historical re-enactment in this year's English Heritage commemoration of the 350th anniversary of the outbreak of the Civil War, with more than 1,000 members of the English Civil War Society in a battle between Parliamentarians and Royalists.

The action begins today at 11am, as brigades march through the town; battles from 3pm both days. Helmsley Castle, Duncombe Park, Helmsley, N. Yorks. Today, tomorrow, £5, child £2.50.

□ St Albans goes wild: At the museum, "wildlife in the garden" workshops, 10am-12.30pm, plus *Norah's Ark*, a play for seven to 12-year-olds, 2pm. Museum of St Albans, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire. Today until July 29. Booking 0727 819340.

JUDY FROSHAUG

**071-481 1920**

## SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

**FAX 071-782 7828**

**LADIES**

A Cornwall-based Lady, refined, caring and feminine seeks cultured, non-smoking Centaur. Reply to Box No 9432

ADVENTUROUS, solvent, independent, with own teeth and other bits educated, tidy, healthy and good daughter. Seeks post-free, intelligent, non-smoking, non-drinking, non-handicapped, non-homosexual. Reply to Box No 9609

AGAINST all odds, the very best, professional female, 39, is without interest in men, but wants to share life and love. If you are a man, don't waste your time. Don't be disappointed. Photo reply to Box No 9433

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# PASSPORT TO FRANCE

Four-page pull-out drivers' guide: ■ Car check-list ■ Britain's love affair with Brittany ■ Motor-cycling to the south

## Keep right, to the end of the road

**Warning triangle?**  
**Spare bulbs?**  
**Robin Young**  
**presents a check-list**  
**for keen but**  
**forgetful drivers**  
**bound for France**  
**this summer**

**A**s we have seen in recent weeks, there are some contingencies that no tourist heading for France could possibly foresee. Wildcat roadblocks apart, though, a little forethought can avoid a lot of problems later.

My wife will laugh that I should be writing this piece. In our family she anticipates all the problems, and I blithely neglect them. The result is that we tend to set off for our summer holidays dangerously under-insured but with a snow shovel and blankets in the boot.

This time I have been obliged to think ahead — and one of the first things I have done is to top up with antifreeze. It sounds daft, but since antifreeze heightens the boiling point of the coolant, it is useful in summer as well as winter.

Other mechanical faults may develop, so this year I will try to remember to pack a red warning triangle to be placed on the road to give approaching traffic adequate warning of a breakdown. It is not compulsory in France if your car is fitted with warning lights, but it is still a good idea, for your own vehicle's safety, to pack one and keep it readily accessible.

It is no longer necessary to fit headlamps with yellow bulbs or filters, but it is still compulsory to have adaptors to change the direction of your dip. All they are is little strips of PVC, and you can get them from AA shops. Spot-checks, even in daylight, can lead to on-the-spot fines for law-breakers.

In France you are required to carry a kit of spare bulbs, and can be subject to a spot fine if you cannot replace any headlamp, flasher or stop or tail light that has blown. Use a GB sticker, and if you don't have a left-hand wing mirror, it's worth getting one.

Keep your documents — licence and vehicle registration — handy; you'll need them if you break down or if you are pulled over. Insurance is a matter for your own judgement. Many insurance policies now issue green cards, which are the internationally accepted certificate of insurance, without additional premium — but check precisely what cover you are getting. The green card does not provide any more cover than you would have in Britain, but without it the cover your UK insurance gives in France is minimal.

**I**f you decide to prepare for the worst and take out a recovery service policy, shop around and do not automatically accept what the AA or RAC offer. Britannia Rescue or National Breakdown can be cheaper, and the cover provided by Europ Assistance or Mondial Assistance more practical and comprehensive.

All these companies, as well as the ferries, your high-street travel agency and your insurance broker, can provide competitive travel insurance, covering medical costs, losses, and personal accident and liability claims.

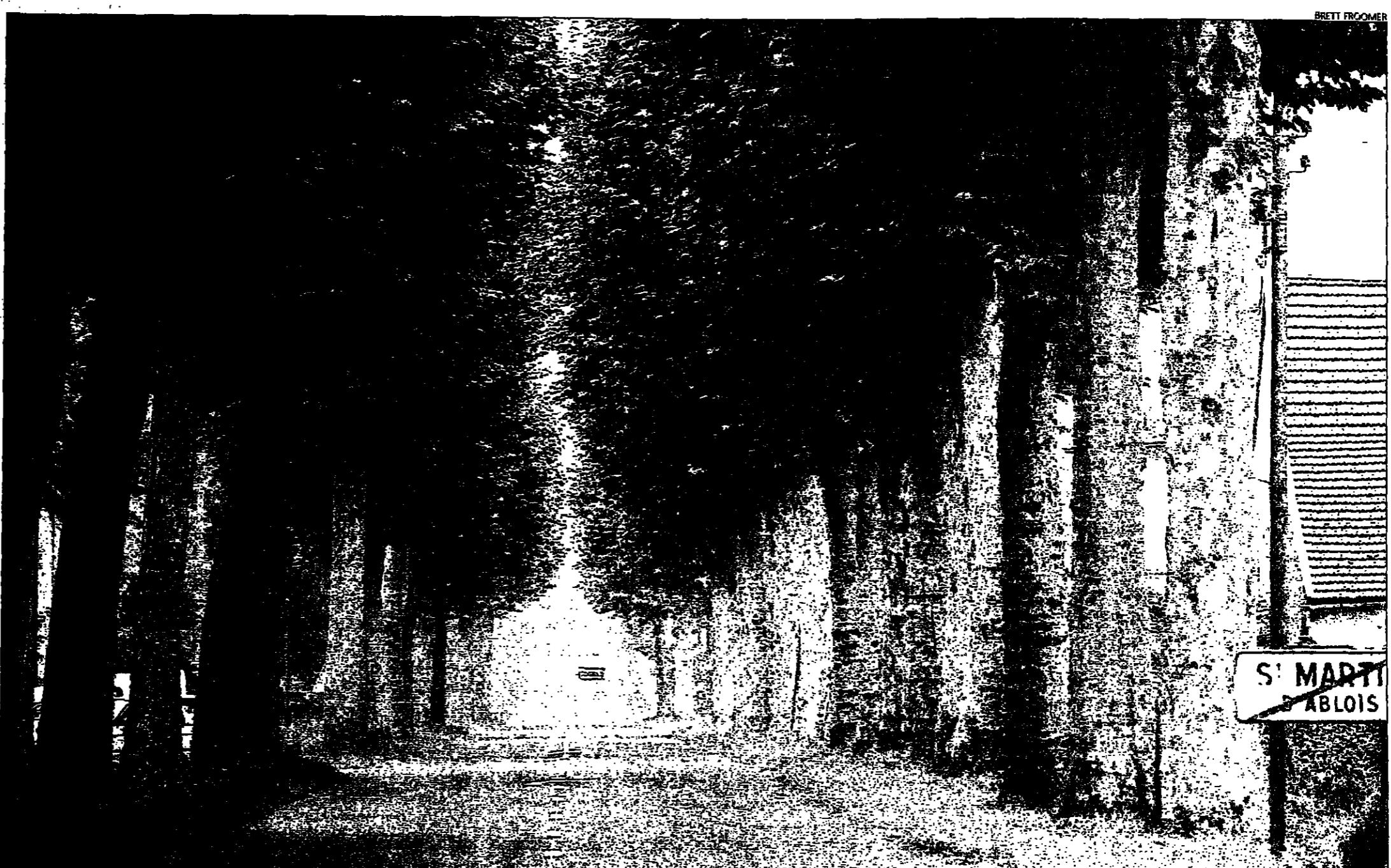
You can do some personal insurance for your family's health and welfare, too. A first-aid kit is not compulsory for motorists in France, but it is recommended. Add to it insect repellent, anti-histamine cream for insect bites and possible allergies, factor 15 suntan lotion, and anti-diarrhoea preparations.

It is sensible also to provide yourself with form E111, obtainable from main post offices. This is the EC form which entitles you to medical care on the same basis as the citizens of the member state you are visiting. Make sure you have one stamped and signed before you leave the UK. In France you have to pay the bill yourself, and reclaim a portion afterwards.

If your Michelin road atlas to France is not the latest edition, replace it. You never know when you may have to navigate your way round roadblocks, and outdated maps can mean missing some advantageous new routes.

The most useful new road (when not blocked by *camionneurs*) is the newly completed A26 Calais-Dijon motorway, which links the Channel port to the A6 Autoroute du Soleil avoiding Paris. The 92km section between Châlons-sur-Marne and Troyes opened at the end of last month, giving direct access to the French Alps, Champagne and Burgundy and bypassing the traffic congestion around the capital. That should be especially useful this August (from the 3rd to the 27th) when the Boulevard Périphérique around Paris will be subject to major roadworks.

Another alternative to the Périphérique thrombosis is a little-known and rather inadequately signposted route called La Francilienne. Eventually it is



An archetypal French road near Epernay: the days when tractors emerged blithely without warning from the right are fading, but your car's cooling system is still the most likely cause of trouble

intended to be a new orbital road round Paris, France's equivalent to the M25, running 118 miles around the city at a radius of between 12 and 18 miles from the centre. Only 80 miles is yet ready for use, and more than 30 miles have still not progressed beyond outline planning, so you need an up-to-date map and detailed directions if you intend to use the sections which are there.

The segment to the east of Paris turns off the A1 just south of Charles-de-Gaulle airport and passes EuroDisney to reach Evry near the A6 intersection. It is a more comfortable road than the Périphérique, and faster. The limit on most of the Francilienne is 68mph (110 kmh) compared with the Périphérique's universal 50mph (80kmh).

Speed limits are taken seriously in France, which was one reason why the French truckers have been so agitated about the points system

for licence endorsements which touched off their blockades. Radar traps are used increasingly and the spot fine of FF1,100 or so which police can demand in cash is regarded as only a deposit. Depending on the degree of your transgression, a demand for more can follow later after the balance owing has been decided by a court.

The legal limits in fine weather where no special speed restrictions are displayed are 130kmh (81mph) on toll motorways, 110kmh (69mph) on dual carriageways and non-toll motorways, and 90kmh (56mph) on other roads outside built-up areas. All those limits are reduced in rain or restricted visibility: the limit on toll motorways becomes 110kmh, on dual carriageways 100kmh (62mph), and on other roads 80kmh (50 mph).

There is also a *minimum* speed limit of 80kmh in dry weather on autoroutes. Dawdlers can be fined.

In all built-up areas, even if no

speed restriction is displayed, the limit within the town or village nameplates is automatically reduced to 50kmh (just over 30mph). The priority on the right rule still applies, though less generally than was once the case. At road junctions in built-up areas, particularly, remember that drivers on the right have priority if there is no stop or give way sign.

The French have now discovered the roundabout, and changed the rules so that traffic on the roundabout now has priority over new arrivals. They still feel it necessary to warn approaching drivers: "Vous n'avez pas la priorité", but it is not safe to assume that all French drivers have got the message.

Familiarise yourself with the three different signs which assure you that the road you are travelling has "passage protégé" (right of way), and rehearse French road signs thoroughly. I am not sure how useful it is to know that "Chute de Pierres" means beware of tumbling rocks, but am shocked at how few British drivers realise that "Ralentir" means to slow down.

For first-timers I should mention that driving on the right is not particularly difficult. The greatest danger comes when you are feeling most relaxed and confident. Leaving a lay-by or filling station on to an empty road, it is perilously easy to fall back into the habit of a lifetime, and meet the next car coming round a bend head-on. It is easy to get the hang of the French system of directional signposting once you have worked out that a sign pointing to the right or left can mean that you go straight on.

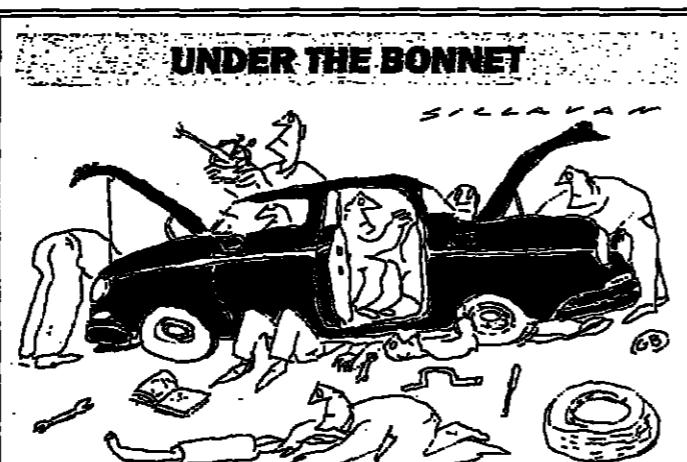
The French autoroutes are far better supplied with pull-ups than our motorways, the simplest site being provided with picnic tables and lavatories. The service areas vary in standard, but I have found that both Court Paille and L'Arche self-service restaurants are more satisfactory than any British motorway catering.

If your car is nearly due for service, get it done early enough for any glitches to show up before you leave, and emphasise to your garage that you are going abroad and will return in vengeful mood if there are any surprises.

If the service is far from due, ask a mechanic to examine the most likely trouble points, or check them yourself. Start with fluid levels: dipstick, radiator header tank, brake reservoir and screenwiper bottles. If any needs more topping up, the cause should be investigated before departure. If your battery is not of the maintenance-free type, check the acid level in each cell and top up with distilled or de-ionised water.

Look under the bonnet for leaks, check the shock absorbers and, while you are under the car, examine the inside walls of tyres for bulges. Check the outer walls, too, of course, for cuts, cracks and bumps that denote damage, and inspect the treads for nails or thorns which could pose a future threat.

The European minimum tread depth is 1.6mm, but it is



THE ANNUAL holiday is likely to be the car's most strenuous fortnight of the year. Taking a poorly maintained, overloaded car with balding tyres on to the ferry is an invitation to holiday drama.

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● **Car rentals:** Companies such as Avis, Budget, Godfrey Davis, Europcar and Hertz have offices in almost every town. It is worth arranging your car rental before leaving Britain. The French railways, SNCF, offer car hire at more than 2,000 stations throughout the country.

● **Accidents:** In case of accidents, inform the Bureau Central Français des Sociétés d'Assurances contre les Accidents Automobiles, 118 rue de Tocqueville, 75350 Paris (01 33 47 66 52 64).

Emergency telephone numbers are: police and ambulance 17, fire brigade 18.

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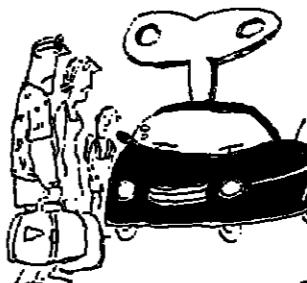
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### IN BRIEF...



bailiff who will prepare a report (*constat d'huisseur*).

● **Rules of the road:** Minimum legal driving age: 18. Seatbelts: obligatory for all passengers. Children under 12s may not travel in front seat. Alcohol: the maximum permitted level in the bloodstream is 0.08 per cent.

● **Petrol:** Cheapest outside supermarkets. Major credit cards are accepted. Petrol is sold in litres: there are just over 4½ litres to the gallon.

**SUSAN BELL**

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● **Up-to-the-minute information on French roads can be obtained by telephoning the information centre on 010 33 1 48 99 33 33. Specifically for motorway information dial 010 33 1 47 05 90 01. General information on French motorways, tolls, and motoring in France can be obtained by writing to the French Tourist Office, 178 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AL, enclosing 80p in stamps.**

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parts and heroes: the St-Malo coast, part of the wolf's head that snarls into the Atlantic

held because the church possesses the first joint of the first finger of John the Baptist. In Quimper cathedral I had seen the skull of another St John — Sainz Du, they call him — in whose memory a fresh loaf of bread is still always on offer to the poor. So I conceived a desire to see the baptist's first joint, too.

I took a rambling drive to St-Jean one summer afternoon, through country lanes where the farmers had shaved the roadside, banks for hay. There were foxgloves, meadowweet, and buttercups still to be seen. Near St-Jean the fields were full of artichokes, with rows of conifers and high bracken-covered hedges as windbreaks.

The Angels was ringing as I parked, by the church. Everything was closed, but a group of women were enjoying a *bavardage* by the steps. Could I see the finger of John the Baptist? "Non, monsieur." They shook their heads. It is too



Order for crêpes and sunshine: lunch outdoors at Dinan

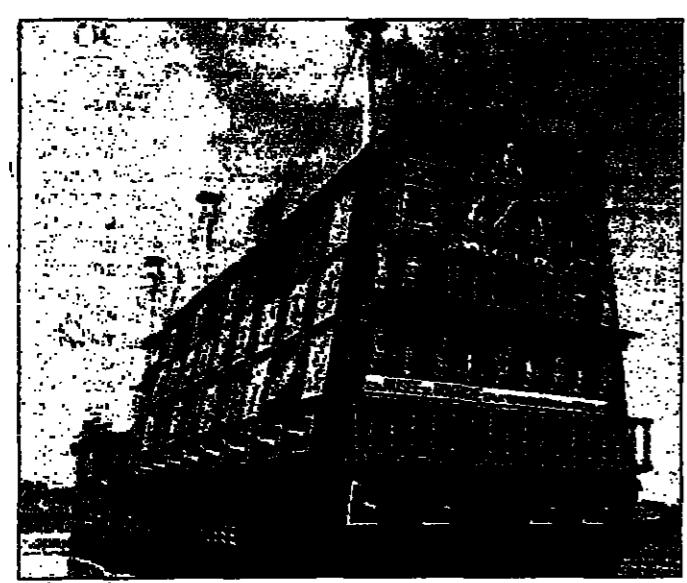
precious. It is in a bank at Morlaix.

They are careful people, the Bretons, and sometimes behind the times. They were still building flamboyant Gothic cathedrals when everyone else had stopped. Rennes may be the pop music capital of France, but at Roscoff, as you enjoy your last

galerie, the motor cycle heaves still thrill to "Hey Joe", performed at a harbour cafe by a couple with a drum machine.

They are behind the times in Brittany, but for them the dance goes on, for real. That, I think, is why we all go back.

• Next week: Côte d'Azur



A museum near Carnac Brittany has 750 miles of shoreline

Fêtes de la mer (nautical festivals) include: July 24-26, son et lumière; July 25, St-Malo; July 29-August 3, folk; Concarneau, July 29-August 3, folk; St-Malo, August 1-2, jazz; Lamballe, August 1-2, folk; Quimper, August 4-21, music; Sarzeau, first fortnight in August, art and music; Belle-Île-en-Mer, August 11-14, island festival; Dinard, beginning of October, film.

Festivals: Interceltic Festival at Lorient, August 13 is the biggest in Brittany. Thousands of Celtic artists. All-in ticket, FF500, (010 33 97 21 24 29 or 010 33 97 21 20 51).

#### WHAT TO READ

The Michelin green tourist guide to Brittany helps to set priorities for a brief visit. The red guide offers gastronomic good sense. The *Insight Guide to Brittany* (APA, £11.95) contains essays, photographs, gazetteer and a wealth of practical information in the back section. *Brittany*, by Keith Spence (George Philip, £17.99) has excellent photographs by the Cornish and an informative text.

*Brittany*, the Institute Géographique National touring guide, (Robertson, McCarter, £9.95) contains a pithy introduction, walks, detailed maps and practical information. *Le Guide du Routard*, Brittany edition, (Hachette, FF69) is packed with idiosyncratic information. Indispensable for French speakers. *The Brittany and Normandy Rough Guide* (Penguin, £7.99), is less comprehensive, but in English. *The Franklin's Tale* by Chaucer (CUP, £4.50).



Hungry? Follow the signs

#### WHERE TO EAT

Brittany does not boast the sophisticated culinary tradition of Normandy but it has an abundance of good seafood, vegetables and chefs. Remember that many restaurants close on Sunday night and all day Monday. For first-class service and imaginative cooking try:

• Vannes: Régis Mahe, place Gare (97 42 61 41). Unpromising location on the outskirts of town but wonderful *bouillon de coquilles*.

• Concarneau: Le Galion, 15 rue St-Guénolé, Ville Close (98 97 30 16). Soufflés are a speciality, as is the *coquille*, half-way between a fish soup and stew. Brittany's answer to bouillabaisse, which as served here is seven leagues away from the simple sailor's supper it once was.

• Rennes: Palais, 7 place Parlement de Bretagne (99 79 45 01). Closed August 10-31. Specialises in milk-fed lamb and other products of Paul Renault's farm. Menus from FF120 (£12.50) to FF290 (£30.20).

For less complicated cooking try:

• Saint Thégonnec: L'auberge Saint Thégonnec, village centre (98 79 61 18). Reliable food and a pleasant ambiance well-placed for lunch or supper on the way to or from Roscoff.

• Roscoff: Chardons Bleus, 4 rue de l'Amiral Révélère (98 69 72 03). Specialises in seafood.

Cheaper still are the crêperies in every square. The buckwheat of central Brittany was used in *galettes* as a substitute for bread. In the east, as a rule, they talk only about crêpes. In the west they use both words, but *galettes* are held to be thicker.

There is good cheap food, too, at the roadside shacks next to the viviers, the shellfish tanks. My favourite is the one at Le Vivier-sur-Mer, on the coastal road east from St-Malo: oysters and mussels fresh from their beds, chips, ice-cold Muscadet and a view over the bay to Mont-St-Michel.

Typical of a market bar is the Bar-brasserie l'Escarrelle (13 rue de la Monnaie, 99 79 33 15) in Rennes, where two can eat more than enough for less than FF150 (£15.60), and there is the added pleasure of watching the ingredients arriving from the market around the corner.

#### WHAT TO COOK

IF YOU are staying in a gîte or camping, Brittany offers a profusion of good things to inspire the most faint-hearted chef. Vegetables include potatoes, cauliflower, carrots, globe artichokes, garlic and tomatoes. Fruit includes cherries, strawberries, melons and, in autumn, chestnuts. In spring, the *pré-salé* lamb (raised on the salt marshes near Mont-St-Michel) is hard to find but repays the effort. Many small farms raise free-range chickens, ducks, guinea fowl and rabbits. Oysters, mussels and scallops are cheap by British standards.

#### HOW TO GET THERE

Brittany Ferries operates on the Portsmouth-St Malo (nine hours) and Plymouth-Roscoff (six hours) routes. Standard return for a family of four and a car costs £311 in peak season. Reservations: The Brittany Centre, Wharf Road, Portsmouth PO2 8RU (0705 827701). Plymouth crossings reservations: Millbay Docks, Plymouth, PO1 3EW (0752 221321). The company offers *gîtes d'intervilles* breaks, short-break motoring holidays & three-night trips for two adults starts from £112, including b&b, and "footloose" breaks for foot passengers. Reservations as above.

Brit Air flies daily from Gatwick to Brest, Quimper and Rennes. Write to: Brit Air, 1028 Long Bridge House, Gatwick Airport north terminal, West Sussex RH6 0NP (0293 502044).

• Peter Brown travelled with Brittany Ferries.

#### WHERE TO STAY



Healthy: St-Malo's Grand Hotel des Thermes

• St-Malo: Grand Hotel des Thermes, 100 boulevard Hébert (010 33 99 40 75 75). Outside the walls but on the seafront, this is a *grande dame* of a hotel where the emphasis is on healthy luxury. Superbly appointed bedrooms, magnificent views. Floor-length bathtubs are provided for guests wishing to take advantage of the adjoining *thermo-spa* centre (this is a feature of Brittany resorts: massage, seaweed, mud and hot seawater). Accommodation ranges from a small single, FF1340 (£35.40) to a marble suite, FF2,100 (£218.75). Hotel France et Chateaubriand, Place Chateaubriand (99 56 66 52). The largest hotel within the walls of St-Malo, it stands next to the writer's birthplace and overlooks his burial site on the Grand Bé. FF445 (£46.35) for a double room with a good view.

• Rennes: Le Piré, 23 rue Mar Joffre (99 79 31 41). Undoubtedly the most exclusive hotel in the city, it has only four rooms — all splendid. They must be reserved well in advance and cost between FF750 (£78.10) and FF950 (£98.95) a night. Marc Angèle's Michelin-starred restaurant is a further attraction.

• Vannes: Hotel Mascotte, rue Jean-Monnet (97 47 59 60). A modern, inexpensive hotel within walking distance of the medieval centre. Rooms FF360.

• Quimper: La Tour d'Anvergne, 13 rue des Regniques (98 95 08 70). A few minutes walk from the cathedral. Rooms FF230-425 (£24-54.30). The Logis de France chain has a large selection of small to medium-sized hotels in Brittany which are family-run and value for money. The Logis guide is free — from French Tourist Office (178 Piccadilly, London, W1) or by post (enclose 80p in stamps to cover postage). From the same address you can obtain a list of gîtes, but book several months in advance for gîtes near the coast.

There are eight Relais and Chateaux hotels in Brittany. They stand in their own grounds, grand country houses, some with self-catering apartments. Best cuisine is at those with the red "Relais Gourmand" shield. The UK number for Relais and Chateaux information and bookings is 071-491 2516.

• Camping: Brittany is well supplied with campsites. Three favourites: Ferme Camping le Vieux Chêne in Baguer-Pican, near Dol de Bretagne (99 48 09 55), has cider, butter, cheese, cooked chickens and pony rides available from the farm. Camping les Mouettes, Carantec (98 67 02 46), is just by the small sea-town custom-built for family holidays: sandy beaches, sailing, fishing, bird-watching and exploring the magical île Callot when the tide allows. Camping le Menhir, St-Cildas-de-Rhuys (97 45 22 88), has meadows standing unmarked in a blackberry field near the tents. There is good sailing from the long beaches of the Presqu'île de Rhuys.

Camping Plus guide gives 24 top campsites in the region. From the French Government Tourist Office, as above.

## TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT TO HOLIDAY FRANCE AND SPAIN..

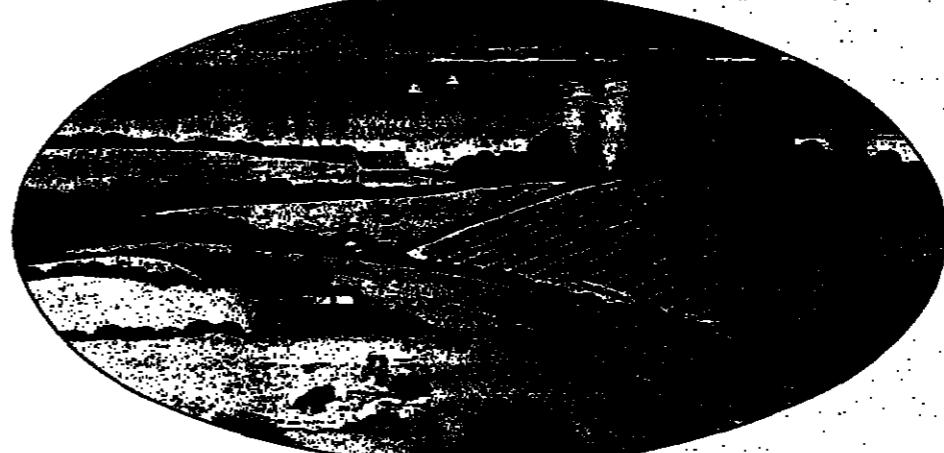
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# Elle for leather, riding south

Louisa Young dons her crash helmet, pulls down her visor and dispenses advice to those about to tour France on a motorbike



Kitted up: Louisa Young

**G**oing off to the Langue d'Oc last summer, I set out on that one day at the beginning of August when the whole of France leaves its desk and heads (by car) for the sea. Cruising down the outside of the great traffic jam from Dieppe to Toulouse, I overtook various friends and relations, and was able to have their orders waiting at the next cafe. I had been sitting with the lizards and the white wine in the sunset for a good while before they caught me up at our final destination. Why? Because I was on a motorbike.

The benefits start on the ferry. A bike's fare is less than a car's logically, and the overalled gnomes whose business it is to get vehicles into the bowels of ferries love motorbikes. 'Toit Vien!' they cry, hauling you to the front of the queue as they load, and insisting that you disembark first at the other end. For the journey, they lash your beast to a rail around the edge of the bowels. It's as well to watch with friendly interest as they do so, it makes them careful.

Every French village smells of croissants between six and nine in the morning, and through the visor of a crash helmet is the best way to appreciate it. The logic behind this is simple. When riding you have to stop every hour or so for your health and safety, to stretch your legs, warm up, cool down, whatever. When you stop you take refreshments: in the morning, the three reviving Cs — coffee, croissant and calvados (you can only have the calvados every other stop, because medicine and illegality overlap in this area). If you get off the night ferry at 5am, say, you can fit in a good four breakfasts.

As you head south and the day wears on not only can you smell your lunch as you cruise into town, but the varied scents of jasmine and rosemary, wild fennel and hot fig trees. The layers of leather and thermal underwear required for the cold of Britain, or of the early morning, gradually peel down. Behind many a tree on the roadside to the south of Paris can be seen, if you look carefully, happy bikers discarding long johns and balaclavas, and slipping their leather jackets on directly over their T-shirts. The moment of truth comes when you dispense with the full

face helmet in favour of an open-face one, with sun glasses.

Now you are truly on holiday, at one with the elements, person and machine in perfect harmony. The gorgeous hairpin bends of the Ardeche valley are calling you. You have to relax. You are limited to speeds of less than 60mph, because if you go any faster your summer helmet will fly off. No rain will sting your smiling face now, no cold will creep down the back of your unprotected neck. Sunburn and greenfly between the teeth (don't sing too gaily) are your only problems.

Soon you will need food and accommodation. In Britain many institutions which should know better blanch at the sight of a person in biking gear. Only in France has a *maitre d'* offered to hang my rain-soaked leather jacket up in the kitchen to dry.

On one trip a very attractive Triumph Trident broke down rather badly, and the restaurateur insisted on parking it in the *dining room* until we came back with vital parts, three days later. He'd hoped we'd take three weeks.

Hotellers are usually happy to offer you a safe corner to park your machine overnight. This is very necessary, particularly in Paris where bike theft is rife. Even in the safest corner, lock it up and chain it to something.

The French like bikes. One pilgrimage is the Bol d'Or, a 24-hour motorcycle endurance, which takes place at Le Beausset, near Toulon, in the late summer. The motorways are free to motorbikes the weekend of the Bol d'Or (the tolls are lower for bikes than for cars anyway), and children in the neighbourhood come out to wave at all the bikes going past.

Down on the seafront at Bandol during this bike-meca weekend, the very fashionable French continent sit in cafés, British oils and Italian hairdressers, gentlemen bikers from the City and models from Paris mix on equal terms, because Levis and a motorbike make Marion Brandon of us all.

And posing abroad is somehow all right because at least you've got there, which gives natural credibility — getting there is a serious business as well as a pleasure.

If you've not taken a bike abroad before, you'll need to plan ahead. All the things which apply to cars in the way of paperwork apply to bikes, only more so. Bikes get stopped more often than cars, either because the officer in question dislikes them or because he likes them very much and hopes you might be over the limit so that he can ride it back to the station.

If you're at all likely to break down, get a service that will bring you home, such as AA Five-Star, especially if you have an arcane make of bike (basically anything not Japanese) for which spares might be a problem. The local blacksmith is usually only too happy to weld your footpegs back on, but that might not be what you want. In fact, get a relay service anyway, because people can drive into you, or you into them, anywhere.

Even the most unmechanical biker should take spare bulbs and sparkplugs (ready set to the right gap, and don't forget the plug-sparker), WD40 for when it rains (it will), and if the bike is chain-driven, the right spanner for adjusting it plus chain lube. If you use an unusual grade of oil take a can of it. A bike that is not used to distance can gobble up unexpected amounts of things it normally hardly touches.

My sister, riding round the world on a Triumph, took a sidecar full of

moisturiser; another friend swears by toothbrush in one pannier and credit card in the other. But you'll need somewhere to put the tools and all those layers of clothing (remember to leave room for them when you pack), and you'll have to put your spare helmet somewhere.

Anyway it's nice to be able to transform yourself into a model of cleanliness and glamour when you've arrived. You could try keeping one pannier for clean things and one for grubby; the problem here is that tools tend to be heavier than Gigli shifts, and this unbalances the panniers. I'm still trying to get round this one.

No matter how waterproof your panniers claim to be, pack everything in plastic bags. Rain-sodden clothes dampen the spirits. Also, most leather clothing isn't actually waterproof. It gives the best protection against wind, it keeps you warm, it protects you if you come off the bike, but for staying dry you'll want nice lightweight waterproofs to wear over your leathers. And boots. Poor fools riding around in shorts and flipflops prove nothing but their own folly.

Incidentally, panniers are prefer-

able to topboxes on a rack at the back of the bike: the lower the centre of gravity, the better the ride.

If you have a rack, use it for sleeping bags or waterproofs, which will anyway be more com-

fortable for a pillion passenger to relax against.

Make sure everything is secure. Use elastic bungee cords, and pull them tight, and check every time you stop a) that they're still there and b) that nothing is fraying. Holes can be worn in throwover leather or plastic panniers remarkably quickly by a wheel going round at 60mph or by a hot exhaust pipe. One good thing about throwover panniers is that you (or your pillion) can sit on them, which helps to hold them in place. Little can spoil your trip like seeing your passport and underwear strewn across the fast lane of the Autoroute du Soleil.

Passengers, by the way, sometimes need bungeeing on too. If you ride too smoothly, they can fall asleep. Be warned.

How long will it take? *Combien de temps ça dura?*

Where does this road go to? *Où va cette route?*

Is this the road to...? *Est-ce la route de...*

May I park here? *Puis-je stationner ici?*

Where is the nearest garage? *Où est le garage le plus proche?*

This car isn't running well: *Cette voiture ne marche pas bien.*

I don't know what is wrong: *Je ne sais pas ce qu'il y a.*

I think it's... *Je crois que c'est...*

The accelerator: *L'accélérateur*

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Fill it up: *faites-le plein.*

I want 20 litres of petrol: *Je veux vingt litres d'essence.*

Please put in some water: *Mettez de l'eau, s'il vous plaît.*

I also need some oil: *Il faut aussi de l'huile aussi.*

Can you fix a flat tyre? *Pouvez-vous réparer un pneu crevé?*

How long will it take? *Combien de temps ça dura?*

Where does this road go to? *Où va cette route?*

Is this the road to...? *Est-ce la route de...*

May I park here? *Puis-je stationner ici?*

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I think it's... *Je crois que c'est...*

The accelerator: *L'accélérateur*

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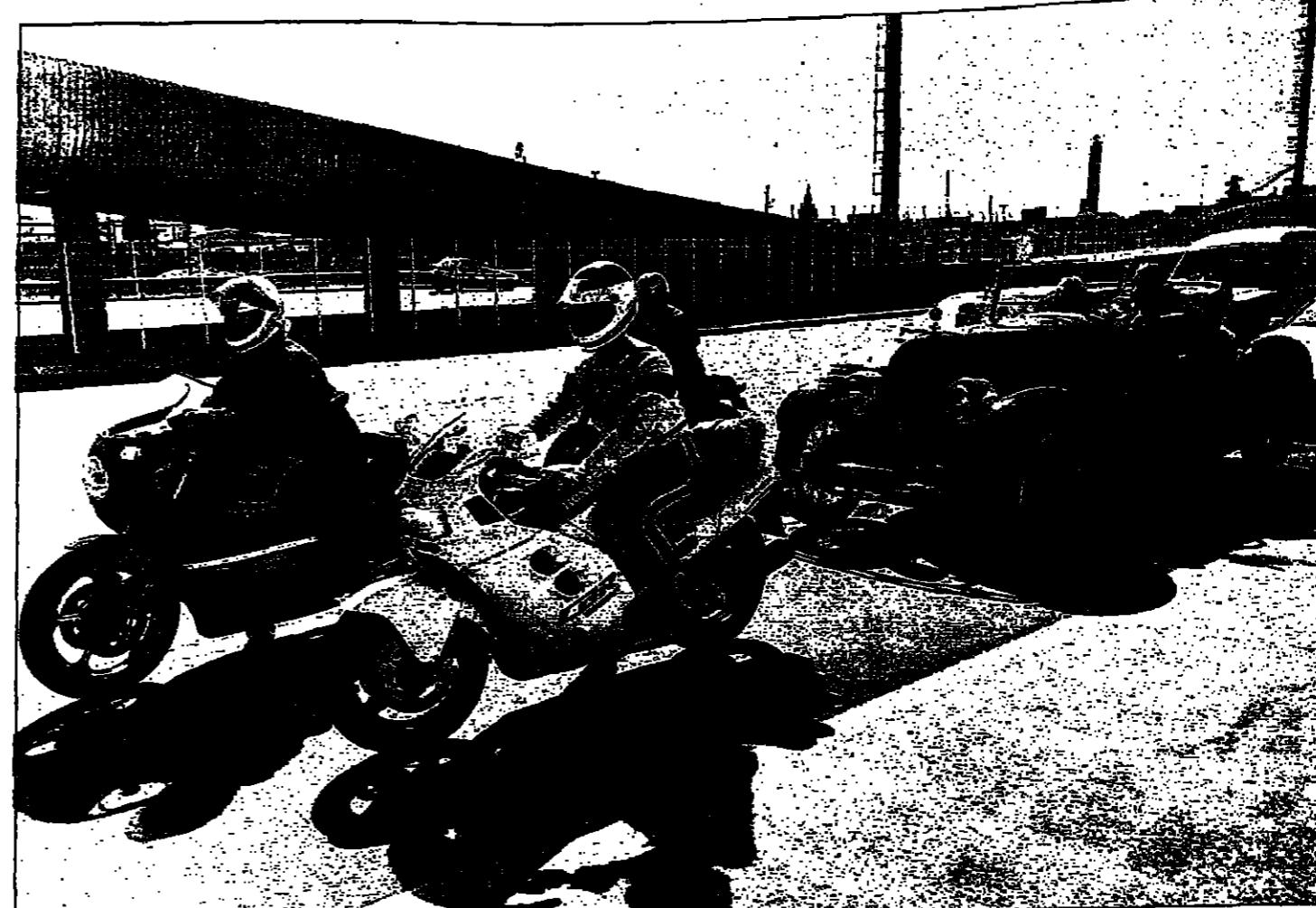
down on the mushroom: *appuyer sur le champignon.*

To drive off the road into a ditch or tree: *rentrer dans le décor*

To go like a bat out of hell: *Conduire d'à vitesse grand V.*

Move that worthless heap off the road: *Ote ce tas de ferraille de la circulation!*

HARRY CORY WRIGHT



Heading for the sun: if you take the night ferry you can enjoy at least four French breakfasts in between overtaking the traffic jams

FRANCIS THOMAS	
Fill it up: <i>faites-le plein.</i>	The air filter: <i>le filtre d'air.</i>
I want 20 litres of petrol: <i>Je veux vingt litres d'essence.</i>	The battery: <i>La batterie.</i>
Please put in some water: <i>Mettez de l'eau, s'il vous plaît.</i>	The brakes: <i>Les freins.</i>
I also need some oil: <i>Il faut aussi de l'huile aussi.</i>	The carburetor: <i>Le carburateur.</i>
Can you fix a flat tyre? <i>Pouvez-vous réparer un pneu crevé?</i>	The clutch: <i>L'embrayage.</i>
How long will it take? <i>Combien de temps ça dura?</i>	The lights: <i>Les phares.</i>
Where does this road go to? <i>Où va cette route?</i>	The motor: <i>Le moteur.</i>
Is this the road to...? <i>Est-ce la route de...</i>	The spark plugs: <i>Les bougies.</i>
May I park here? <i>Puis-je stationner ici?</i>	The tyres: <i>Les pneus.</i>
Where is the nearest garage? <i>Où est le garage le plus proche?</i>	The front wheel: <i>La roue avant.</i>
This car isn't running well: <i>Cette voiture ne marche pas bien.</i>	The back wheel: <i>La roue arrière.</i>
I don't know what is wrong: <i>Je ne sais pas ce qu'il y a.</i>	SLANG EXPRESSIONS
I think it's... <i>Je crois que c'est...</i>	A reckless, bad driver: <i>Un chauffard.</i>
The accelerator: <i>L'accélérateur</i>	To step on it, to put one's foot down (literally to press

SUSAN BELL

Your guide to the French festivals and good books

## Summer music



Loire lacework: embroidery plays its part in all festivals

AMBRONAY: The festival at Ambronay Abbey takes place every autumn over four weekends. Its main focus is on early music and in particular the rediscovery of the 17th and 18th-century heritage.

Information: Place de l'Abbaye, 01500 Ambronay.

Tel: (010 33) 74 35 08 70. Sept 26 - Oct 18.

AMIENS: Held in and around the 13th-century cathedral of Amiens, the Festival des Cathédrales combines four weekends of music dominated by choral works with visiting ensembles.

Conseil régional de Picardie, 11 mail Aulne 1st, 80000 Amiens. Tel: (010 33) 22 97 37 Sept 11 - Oct 4.

BESANCON: The capital of Franche-Comté, surrounded by wooded hills and overshadowed by its citadel, is host to a major festival of orchestral and chamber music which also takes in a Young Conductors' Competition. This year there will be visits from the St Petersburg Philharmonic under Mariss Jansons, Pascal Devon, Ton Koopman, The Tallis Scholars, and the Vogler Quartet.

Festival de Musique. Tel: (010 33) 25 00 26. Sept 4 - 18.

BRIVE: The Vézère International Festival takes place in the listed 17th-century Château de Saillant, a Glyndebourne setting, and in the magnificent churches of the Vézère valley situated near Brive. The classical music programme offers performances of Donizetti's *L'Elisir d'amore* and Lehár's *The Merry Widow*.

Festival de la Vézère, 11 place Jean-Marie-Dauzat, 19100 Brive. Tel: (010 33) 55 23 25 09. Until Aug 22.

CONCARNEAU: The old walled town of Concarneau, one of Brittany's most important fishing ports, is host to the Festival of the Blue Fishing Nets. Dancers form a whirlwind of lace and velvet to the sound of bagpipes.

Information: (010 33) 98 97 01 44. Aug 23.

CONFLENT: The 35th anniversary of the international folk festival celebrates the Columbus' quincentenary, bringing together companies from Brazil, Ecuador, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Trinidad and Spain.

Information: BP 214, 16500 Conflent. Tel: (010 33) 74 00 77. Aug 7 - 17.

LILLE: The 'Paris of the Low Country', with its fine theatres and city gates, takes British music as its festival theme this year. Purcell's *The Indian Queen*, a week of rock music and a performance of Britten's *War Requiem*.

Festival de Lille, 64 av du President Kennedy, 59800 Lille. Tel: (010 33) 20 52 74 23. Oct 21 - Nov 21.

LORIENT: Creative arts from the Celtic regions of Asturias, Galicia, Brittany, Scotland,

Ireland, Wales, Isle of Man and Cornwall. There will be some 4,500 musicians, dancers, singers, modellers, lecturers, film-makers and writers.

Information: 2 rue Paul Bert, 56100 Lorient. Tel: (010 33) 97 21 24 29. Aug 7 - 16.

LYON: The 5th Dance Biennial embraces the 'passion of Spain' as its theme, aiming to present all forms of Spanish dance.

Information: Maison de Lyon, place Bellecour, 69002 Lyon. Tel: (010 33) 72 40 26 26. Sept 12 - Oct 4.

MENTON: A chamber music festival with visits this year from the pianist Tatiana Nicolaeva and the young Russian virtuoso, Evgeny Kissin.

Palais de l'Europe, ave Boyer, BP 111, 06503 Menton. Tel: (010 33) 93 57 57 00. Aug 3 - 31.

PERIGUEUX: The International Mime Festival attracts contemporary companies, physical theatre troupes and street entertainers.

Information: Centre Culturel de l'Ancien Cloître de la Visitation, rue Littré, 24000 Périgueux. Tel: (010 33) 53 55 17. Aug 3 - 12.

TOULOUSE: Inaugurated in 1978, this month-long festival is entirely devoted to the piano, with concerts in the Cloître des Jacobins.

Information: 61 rue de la Pomme, 31000 Toulouse. Tel: (010 33) 61 22 40 05. Aug 28 - Sept 25.

KARI KNIGHT

READING IN	

<

## Sad song of sixpence for my enormous pocketful of rye

lest you should think that I am becoming in any way a competent farmer, let me tell you a story that has been brought to mind by the approach of the harvest season. To adapt the old nursery rhyme, it is a song with, alas, no sixpence in it, but an enormous pocketful of rye.

One of the first crops that I grew when we came here was rye. I was encouraged by my library of aged farming tomes, whence cometh all my understanding of traditional farming. Of rye they say, "a rank growth so succulent... the earliest food for sheep...". Of the grain they remark, "on the Continent it forms the principal article of food of the labouring classes".

It was clear that rye is one of those hardy crops, thrifty in its ways and willing to grow under farming conditions as barren as Blackpool beach. It sounded exactly the copper-bottomed sort of crop a

beginner ought to grow. Except that I didn't want a crop of mature rye. I wanted a field of fresh, sprouting rye shoots on which to graze the stock.

Rye is a rapid grower and even by the middle of January when all other growth has come to a freezing halt, it is safe to graze it lightly with sheep without doing any permanent damage. It is also good for the sheep to have some fresh green feed at a time when it is scarce; and it is even better for the other meadows, for there is no temptation to turn out the flock when the grass ought to be resting.

But what no book warned me about was the staying power of this stuff. Rye clings to the earth like a drunk to a bar at closing time. Sure

Three weeks later the rye was back and sprouting even more



enough, our October-sown crop flourished, and by February the sheep were gobbling as much as they could handle. In fact, at one stage we brought in an extra hundred sheep just to keep the flourishing rye in check. Within a fortnight, the hungry ewes had grazed it bare until the shoots met the dust. I sent the visiting flock home with thanks.

Within a fortnight and despite cripplingly low temperatures, the rye was up and fighting again. I rang the shepherd. The hundred ewes returned and poured out of the lorry like a peckish old-folks' outing drawing up at a Little Chef. One week and it was all gone. The ewes went home.

vigorously in the increasing warmth of the lengthening days. It had survived two huge attacks, and desperate measures were called for. We used sprung-tined harrows: a vicious wide-toothed comb which

runs backwards and forwards until every fleck of green has been removed from the landscape. I looked at the field when we had finished, thanked the rye for the valuable service it had provided in

feeding the sheep through the winter, and apologised for putting such a brutal end to its life.

Within a week, it was back. Like an unwelcome relative waving from the approaching train, the slender green shoots were once again swaying depressingly in the spring breezes. I called an end to the game, admitted defeat, and let the crop grow to maturity. We harvested it with the binder, grudgingly carried it to the stack, and reluctantly put it through the threshing machine to extract the grain.

But the worst was yet to come. I thought that at least for all my efforts I would now have several tons of rye for sale and could look forward to a profit on the whole tormenting exercise. But the few grain dealers we rang did not seem very interested. I told them that those Ryvita people must be crying out for it, but they were not swayed.

In desperation I screamed: "But what about the labouring classes on the Continent? Surely they would welcome it?"

Having persuaded nobody of its value, we heaped the bags on to a trailer and hid them in a dark recess of the barn. Throughout the past year the mice have gnawed holes in the hessian sacks and my hard-harvested grain has trickled out like the sands of time.

I don't suppose anyone will give me any credit for reducing the grain mountain, which we are all being urged to do. After all, there is no greater sacrifice a farmer can make than to grow his corn and then feed it to the mice.

I had given up hope and was considering a bonfire when a pig farmer said he'd give me sixty quid for the lot. I added up the costs of producing it, the man-hours in cutting, carting and threshing. Result: lots of rye, very few sixpences.

FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY



## Spin-doctor for web weavers

Peter Freedman meets a spider consultant who thinks that the humble British arachnid has had a bad press

There are nearly half a million spiders in the back of Stephen Knapp's green minivan. Not that conditions in the vehicle are cramped as a result. Far from it. The spiders, which float in alcohol-filled tubes packed in a small box, take up little space that there is room for several million there.

These are just the latest batch of specimens Mr Knapp has collected on his assignment as spider consultant to a nature reserve in Oxfordshire. Like the dozen or so county councils and nature trusts that have hired him in this capacity before, the reserve wants him to report back on the variety and number of spiders to be found on its patch.

"Spiders can be a good indicator of the health of the habitat," he says. "They are predators, and for there to be a good range of spiders, there has to be a good range of lower invertebrates to prey on."

Clients use his findings in conjunction with surveys on other species to help to decide how to manage the habitat. "Also, if you discover a particularly rare species breeding somewhere, the site will automatically be protected from development," he says.

Mr Knapp, aged 31, first became interested in spiders when he decided to leave his job as a City pensions manager to take a course in countryside management, for which applicants needed a year's relevant experience.

The nearest thing he could find was a job with the London borough of Wandsworth's conservation unit, which entailed spending a year studying the borough's spiders. He went on to take the intended course and now, when not

spider-consulting, works as warden at Pagham Harbour nature reserve, near Chichester, in West Sussex.

There are nearly 700 species of spider in Britain, of which Mr Knapp has spotted barely half in the eight or nine years he has been on the trail "in any serious way". He is unlikely ever to sight all Britain's species. Apart from anything else, new ones are being discovered all the time, not least by Mr Knapp himself.

He has already ticked off almost all the varieties he once aspired to spot.

Britain's richest patch for spiders is the South East, mainly because it is the warmest. "Heathlands are always good for spiders and there are a lot of good heathlands in Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey and Kent," he says. Soft coastlines, such as shingle beaches, are also favoured territory.

He concedes that it all sounds a bit barbaric, but it is for the long-term good of the species as a whole. This may be why he has so far faced no trouble from spider enthusiasts. "But, then, not many people come across me when I'm out spider-hunting."

Every spider he despatches saves a large number of its prospective prey from a far grimmer death. Spiders, he explains, first bite their prey, then inject them with a poison that kills or immobilises them and dissolves their internal organs into a soup. "The spider then sucks the carcass dry."

But while all spiders are poisonous to their prey, only one British species, *Steatoda paykulliana*, is believed to be poisonous to human beings. (It is related to the Black Widow and the Redback.) Only the female is suspected of being poisonous, but so far

Britain's spider fauna is not, in fact, especially rich compared with that of some European countries, let alone tropical ones, of which the largest might house tens of thousands of species. Britain can, however, boast some un-



Spider man: Stephen Knapp, at the Pagham Harbour nature reserve, wants to encourage eight-legged friendships

only the male has yet been found in Britain. It is found on the Kent coast, to which, it is thought, it may have been blown over from France.

Mr Knapp feels that spiders are misunderstood creatures. Firstly, they are not insects but arachnids, part of the same

family as scorpions. "And they have had a bad press from day one," he says.

"But they are an extremely desirable creature to have in your house. They keep down the mosquitoes, midges, flies and most are completely harmless

to human beings." In fact, he suggests, they should be encouraged, which can be done simply by cutting down on household dusting.

One of the things that attracts him to the study of spiders is that so little is known about them. Most of the site

records date from the Victorian era, when country vicars and other gentlemen naturalists pioneered the field. "You can make new discoveries all the time," he says.

"It's rather like entering the world of the birdwatcher 100 years ago."

### Events

Beltring show: Includes showjumping, sheep dog displays and marching bands. Whitbread Hot Farm, near Peckwell Wood, Kent (0622 873068). Sun, 10am, £4.25, concs £3.

New Forest & Hampshire Show: Showjumping, cattle, flower marquee, dog show and fair. New Park, Brockenhurst (0390 2232409). Tues-Thur, 9am-6pm, £7, concs £3.50.

Leeds country style: Hands-on experience of wildlife conservation skills. Hollybush Farm, Broad Lane, Leeds (0532 742335). Sun, 11am-5pm, free.

Sandringham flower show: Areas for clematis, roses and fuchsias, plus gun-dog and parachute displays. Sandringham Park, King's Lynn, Norfolk (0553 763044). Wed, 9am, £3.50, concs £1.50.

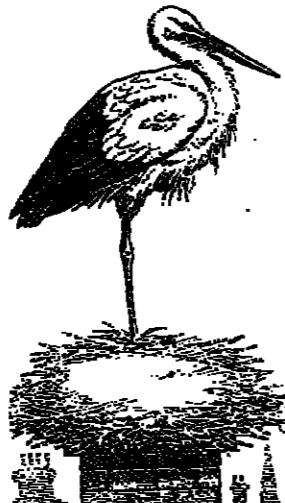
Went sweet pea: Townwide sweet pea festival, in churches, chapels, shops. Wem, Shropshire. Today, 10am-5pm, 50p; Sun, 10am-4pm, 30p.

### GARDEN TO VISIT

Cumbria: Hutton-in-the-Forest has an 18th-century walled flower garden with herbs and fruit trees, terraces, lake, topiary, woodland walks and fine views. The estate is 3m NW of Penrith. Open Sun, Thur, Fri, 1-4pm; tomorrow for National Gardens Scheme. 11am-5pm. Gardens: £1.50, child free; find house, £5 and £1 respectively.

## Why the stork flies east

Feather report



We now know the truth about the former East Germany. It is a ruined land, polluted beyond belief, the residue of years of inefficiency and indifference. It is a dying land.

This is all true, but it is not all the truth. I saw that when I went on a wild stork hunt along the border-land that once separated East and West Germany. It was a spooky experience. The watch towers still punctuate the landscape; a broad strip of untended scrub still separates east from west. Politically inadvertent created a very long, very, very thin nature reserve. Reunited Germany intends to keep it that way. A sweet monument to decades of division.

The landscape changes dramatically either side of the border-line scrub. One side is ruined, smashed and polluted. The other side is heating with life, clambering with birdsong even this late in the year. You should have been here in the spring, they kept telling me; nightingales every hundred yards.

And here is the twist: the pollution side is in the west. The life is in the east.

It is an odd paradox. The industry of eastern Germany has been dreadful and profligate: the agriculture has not. After the war, western Europe was taken up with a huge drive to intensify its agriculture. It happened in this country; it happened in western Germany. Hedges were mashed, ditches dug up, woods demolished, wetlands drained, grazing land ploughed. Produce or die: the farming industry suc-

ceeded not wisely but too well.

In eastern Germany this did not happen. Vast areas of farmland are still full of life, and still support, in teeming numbers, the birds which have adapted their behaviour over the centuries to live alongside agricultural man.

Of all the birds of Europe that live with man, there is none as spectacular, as well-loved and as enormous as the white stork. It nests on factory chimneys, church steeples, electricity pylons, any crazy eminence will suit. It builds a nest that weighs a couple of hundredweight, often has sparrows lodging in the lower stories, and sometimes causes roofs to collapse beneath it.

Storks live with men because they find their food in agricultural land, reptiles from ditches and canals, mice and insects from grassy fields. A dozen white storks rippling

through freshly mown grass is as grand a sight as you will see.

The endless, hedged, potted prairies of the European communities are no good for storks (they are not good for any bird). In the west, the storks are declining fast; in the east, they are doing fine. But for how much longer? Eastern Germany is in the EC now. Conservation must act now. This is a great opportunity.

It has taken a chocolate maker to show the way: a company called the Stork group. The name is an auspicious coincidence in German. The birds are *störche*. The company has formed the Stork Foundation, and it has coughed up £1 million.

White stork nesting sites are not the problem. The problem is feeding ground, and the Stork Foundation has been buying land in eastern Germany, where the white storks roost and feed.

There are plans for further investment and more purchases. The land will be managed for wildlife, kept wet and lightly grazed. Other species of birds, animals and plants will thrive alongside the stork in such splendid conditions.

A million quid? I wonder how long it will be before I can celebrate the first British company to write a cheque for a million pounds, every quid of it go to conservation.

SIMON BARNES

• What's about Birds? - watch for young goldfinches, which lack the red face pattern of adults. Twitters - Red-spotted blue-throat at Holme, Norfolk; pectoral sandpiper at Titchwell, Norfolk. Details: Birdline, 0898 700222.

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# American echoes on a Cornish coast

Elizabeth Dickson finds how the stuff of dreams can become a reality

**A**n old Cornish saying urges: "Go slow in haste," and this is how Joan Harkness has set about the transformation of a damp, seaside cottage into a cosy retreat.

Picturesque, quaint, steep-billed and tiny: a fishing village such as this is not just the stuff of nostalgia from which dreams of England are spun; for there is at least one port on Cornwall's northern coast which still remains unspoilt and lovely. Lanes weave round slate-roofed stone or clapboard cottages with courtyards or terraced gardens, and one half expects to find a pirate with a parrot in the queue of the harbour fish shop.

High above the cormorants and caves, in a cul-de-sac where hollyhocks grow 12ft tall, is Vine Cottage, looking chipper in a fresh coat of pale green paint.

When househunting in April 1991, Ms Harkness had pleasant memories of time spent on the whaling island of Nantucket and also of Marblehead, America's oldest township, near Boston, which she later learnt was founded by Cornishmen. Increasingly, she had felt the need to live near the sea again, and last April, while down in Cornwall, noticed the similarity between the clapboard and shingled houses of Marblehead and several in this village. These were built by emigrants, who having made their money, came home, much influenced by transatlantic style. Hence such names as Chocolate House.

Compounding all this, the atmosphere on that initial visit recalled holidays in her Irish childhood at Groomport, near Belfast. After arranging with the local estate agent to view properties, all 11 she saw were deemed unattractive, for, as Ms Harkness explains, "I'm hardly over the doorstep before I can feel if a place is any good."

Another cottage for sale was first noticed during the climb back up the lanes that same evening. "I just know it. That's the place for you," a friend said, and a little later an offer of £81,000 was accepted. Restoration, structural alterations and everything from local Delabole rose granite for a bathroom to plants from Trelawney Garden Centre at Wadebridge cost £25,000.

This mid-18th-century building, and what the new owner has done with it, demonstrates how, when space is at a premium, ingenuity is needed in planning to make more



Bared essentials: the 18th-century fireplace restored to its glory

of less. The galley kitchen, for example, with its microwave, and cupboards and fittings made out of cut-down vintage pine doors, is an efficient workplace.

There was still the smell of tobacco lingering in an upstairs room when Ms Harkness arrived, for this was the study where the vicar, whose home it had been, wrote his sermons. "The whole place is serene. Nowhere there's a magical effect," she says. "Everyone who stays, wants to return."

Ms Harkness usually spends three days a week in Cornwall, driving the 240 miles from her London flat or her Chelsea shop. Jewels One.

**H**aving ended up with the first-floor bathroom taps reversed, so that the one indicating cold produces hot water, and with the two bedrooms down the passage decorated, the next move was to make an American-style main bedroom in yellow and white up on the top floor. Linked to it is the second gold-tipped bathroom, made in space created by burrowing further into the eaves.

What had not been counted on, however, were the seagulls who teach their young to fly from the roof, and Ms Harkness is thinking of laying wire mesh across the slate, as the birds, delightful as they may be, use the roof as their stopover en route to the sea pools below.

From the courtyard garden (where a stone-columned arbour and purpose-built table are now in production), and just a step out

from the top-floor rooms, there is a view like an old water-colour of cliffs, fishing boats and sea.

As power cuts are frequent in this enclave of coast, storing food in the freezer is hazardous and anyway, to her dismay, she once returned to find guests had left the door of the freezer open.

Shopping is done in fits and starts, sometimes with a session at the supermarket off the motorway, or by pottering to the local shops where prices are comparable to London — except for the cheaper and delicious fresh fish. Megrim sole from the quayside wholesaler is particularly good.

Often meals are eaten out, at Padstow's good fish restaurants, and inland at Chapel Amble. The Maister's Arms is well known for its mussels. A memorable meal for two or more is to take lobsters (the mid-June price is £4.90 a lb) or dressed crab (£1.30 each) with wine to the rocks, there to break the shells and eat to the sound of waves. And to wash hands in the sea.

Once unpacked, the car must be left at the top of the steep 1½ hill outside the cottage. The alternative, costly method of travel — taxi to the station in London, return fare to Bodmin, and keeping the car at the station there — has been abandoned as impractical.

Sometimes, there is time to join the village aerobics class on arrival, but whatever the hour, once inside the cottage, the prevailing sense is of being perpetually on holiday.

The restoration and conversion work is almost complete. A lantern hangs by the front door, a small plaster angel, bought in San Fran-

cisco, is stuck on the gothic gate and the flower borders in the front terrace garden have been added to and strengthened with white-washed cement.

Certain initial problems sound nightmarish. Not only did the original slate floor have to be dug up and relaid properly, as it had been laid directly on to the earth, but the front-of-house vine, whose cuttings down the generations are parent plants to most of those grown on other houses nearby, was found to be growing indoors. The roots had spread themselves comfortably down into the foundations of the building. Next, in times of flooding, a stream from the hillside into which Vine Cottage leans, began to meander over the sitting-room floor.

Today all is dry indoors, with the asbestos wall panels thrown away and original brickwork exposed.

One of the most rewarding results has been to set the 18th-century fireplace, with its old fan-laid brick surround, re-emerge as layers of wall covering were painstakingly chipped away.

**V**ine Cottage is decorated with more seascape reminders. There is a shell-framed mirror above a handbasin, and in the sitting-room framed print of Boston Bay, a watercolour of Nantucket rooftops and two paintings by Chris Dearden of Antirn Bay. A mug from the nearby pottery has a lobster motif.

In the very private rear suntrap garden, where walls are whitewashed to help the plants to grow better, seashore-loving plants include cascades of the ubiquitous pink Swan River daisy. In summer, everywhere around there is pink or white valerian fringing drystone walls.

"Cornwall is a phase in my life, so I embrace it," Ms Harkness says. "I've never prepared myself for being somewhere forever, although one day I'll want a warmer climate." Meanwhile someone who works for other people in the village calls in every other day to water the plants and check all is in order.

Friends constantly come to stay. For them, as for the owner, Sir John Betjeman (whose resting place is close by) pinpointed the attraction of the spirit of place, when he wrote in *North Coast Recollections*: "Atlantic bells and birds! Were layer on interchanging layer of sound."



Basic instinct: Joan Harkness knew Vine Cottage was right as soon as she crossed the threshold

## Basking under Cromwell's guns

### HOUSE HUNTER

Compton End, Hampshire

**C**ompton End, three miles from Winchester, epitomises the classic country farmhouse. Timber-framed under a thatched roof, the Grade II listed Elizabethan house oozes charm and prettiness, but there are hidden depths. Compton End was home to some of Cromwell's forces during the siege of Winchester.

At the time it was the only property in the area, and village folklore has it that one of Cromwell's generals stayed in the main house, while his troops were quartered in the four original barns, one of which is still standing. Nobody is sure that Cromwell himself stayed there but it is likely that he did when he took charge of the siege in the autumn of 1645.

As the old capital of England, Winchester was a staunch royalist stronghold. It surrendered after Cromwell ordered a bombardment from the top of a nearby hill, still called Oliver's Battery.

One of the best views of the hill is from the south-facing timbered-balconied balcony that leads off the main bedroom, and is ideal for sunbathing inside, when the weather cools, the open fireplace with an oak surround is an asset, but the narrow hanging cupboards, typical



City dweller's ideal: Compton End, near Winchester, gives the impression that time has stood still

of most of the bedrooms, are a definite drawback. Extra storage space is available on the first-floor landing, however.

The rooms have low-beamed ceilings and the abundance of oak makes the house seem dark, but there is a refreshing feeling of time standing still.

"We've had a lot of interest from Londoners. When they're sitting in the city dreaming of escaping to the country, Compton End is what they imagine," says Simon de Boinville, of the agency John D. Wood.

The original square of the house is 16th century, with the front entrance and conservatory added later by the architect G.H. Kitchin, who lived in the house from 1894 and carried out much of the restoration work in the Arts and Crafts style popular with the Victorians.

The property includes an acre and a half of gardens designed by Kitchin. They are divided into the formal garden, with sundial, pond garden and parterre with clipped box borders, and the more informal

kitchen garden and orchard, with an mulberry tree and a pink summerhouse, which is also Grade II listed.

The open fields that would have surrounded Compton End in Cromwell's time have been largely swallowed up by modern houses, but it is still a peaceful setting, even with the busy M3 is close by.

GILL ELLIOTT

Offers around £350,000 to John D. Wood's Winchester office 10962 863131.

**I**n the small village of Ornex, a few miles west of Divonne-les-Bains, about 15 minutes' drive from Geneva airport and the Swiss border, this detached chalet-style house (below) is for sale at £174,000 (including agency fees). It overlooks the Alps and has the Jura mountains as a backdrop. The property includes a quarter of an acre of garden, bordered by a stream.

The main house has a large living area with a traditional stone fireplace, and a newly fitted kitchen and dining area, with doors leading to a large sun terrace. There is a laundry/cloakroom and a utility and laundry room on the ground floor, with three bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs.

Attached to the house is a self-contained one-bedroom apartment (needing redecoration), with bathroom and balcony, and a garage with a loft.

The area around the old spa town of Divonne-les-Bains, with its thermal centre, racecourse and casino at the edge of Lake Divonne, is easily reached, by plane to Geneva or by TGV express from Paris (three and a half hours).

Sheltered by the Jura mountains, the area has a mild climate all year. Nearby is Lake Geneva and high above the lake skiers can practice their alpine skills year-round on glaciars.

Winter skiing is good, too. Resorts in the Swiss Alps, such as Gstaad and Château d'Oex, are an hour's drive from Divonne, and about 90 minutes away are the fashionable French resorts Megève, Chamonix and La Clusaz.

This is a popular second-home area with the French and the Swiss, and property is not cheap — except when compared with over the border in Switzerland. A one-bedroomed flat in Divonne-les-

## Glaciers and hot baths

### Buyer's France AIN

Bains will cost at least £50,000, and two or three-bedroomed flats cost from £70,000 to £200,000.

Prices are slightly lower in the surrounding towns and villages, such as Ornex, Grilly and Ferney-Voltaire, with their pretty half-timbered houses and market squares. A few minutes' drive from Geneva airport and the Swiss frontier a large detached house with three or four bedrooms, modernised kitchen, bath and small garden, costs about £150,000.

The proximity of Switzerland is one attraction of this part of France. Many people prefer to live in France, where living is cheaper, but work in Switzerland, where wages are higher. The Swiss issue a special work permit for this purpose. This is restricted to foreigners who have lived and worked in Switzerland for five years, but this could change next year, with the Swiss application to join the European Community. A change is likely to push up property prices on the French side of the border.

CHERYL TAYLOR

• Alpine Apartments Agency, Hinton Manor, Bardisland, Leominster, Herefordshire (05447 2349)

• A useful and detailed book, *Life and Work in France*, by Mark Hempstead, is published by Vibration Work, 9 Park End Street, Oxford, at £9.50.



Border post: detached house at Ornex, near Divonne-les-Bains

## Heap of the week

### Empty shell hides a hoard of history

not marked on the Ordnance Survey map.

Ranton's fascinating history has been unravelled in an archaeological paper commissioned by Lichfield Estates. In the middle of the 12th century a small priory of Augustinian canons was founded here by Norman knights, the Noel family, and by 1280 had grown around a cloister.

The ivy has been shorn from the walls, leaving an astonishing bristly crown, encircling parapets and pinnacles. However, the best surprise is to find that the main south front of the ruin overlooks another still larger stretch of park, with a diagonal view down to a large and beautiful lake, which is curiously

unusually bold pediments on the end gables.

As Shugborough becomes thronged with visitors, Lord Lichfield plans to rebuild Ranton for his son.

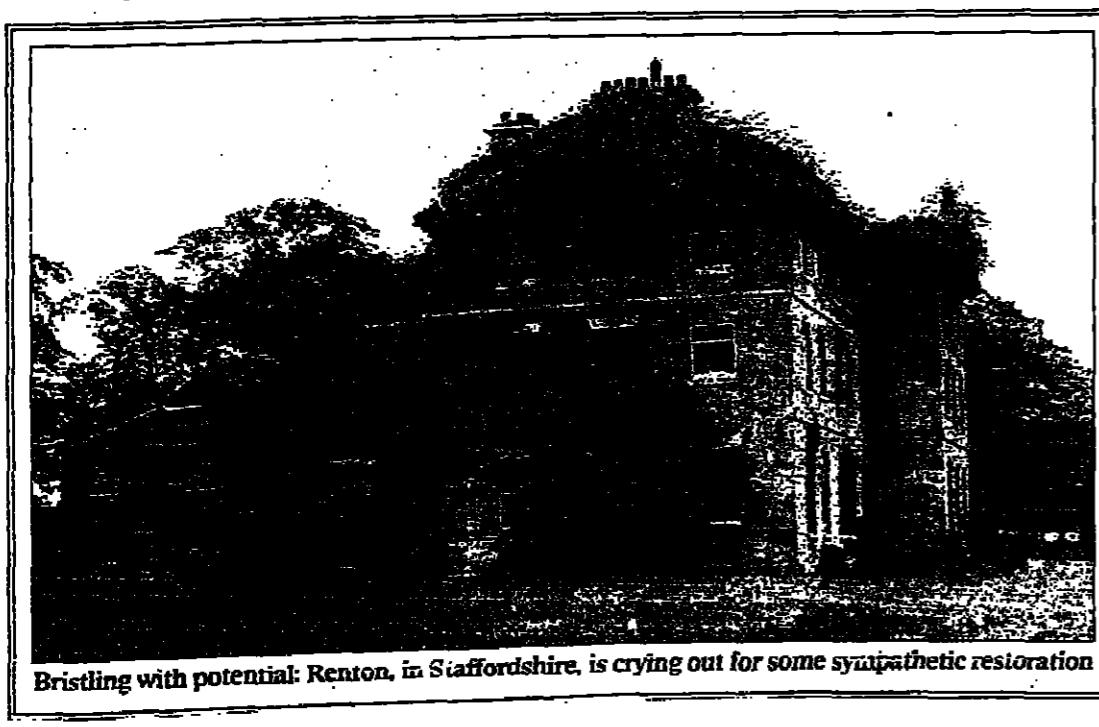
A pleasant new Georgian house has been designed by Francis Johnson, contrived so that the existing stable block is one of a pair of matching wings flanking a forecourt.

The old house, however, would simply be reduced to a single-storey shell, with the medieval remains exposed to view inside. Rightly, neither the local authority nor English Heritage are happy with so radical a treatment of a scheduled ancient monument, and the minister has indicated he will refuse the scheme.

Nobody, however, is against the idea of restoring the existing shell.

Though, strangely irregular, it is a fine sight with wonderful potential for reconstruction.

MARCUS BINNEY



Bristling with potential: Ranton, in Staffordshire, is crying out for some sympathetic restoration



# Obliterating the mark of the swastika

Elizabeth Dickson visits a manor in the Dordogne with a painful history

**VIVIENNE Waugh**  
first set eyes on Le Manoir de la Rebiere on a house-hunting marathon through France with Jonathon, her elder son. Her immediate reaction was: "If it is this good in November, it's for us."

They had already viewed 25 properties during a few days in 1990, and although the Dordogne may be where hills trill to the sound of resident English, there were, oddly, few other Britons living in this northern part, the Perigord Vert.

Built in the Napoleonic period, the stone house is set in a park with dense woodland fringing the meadows beyond. In the fading afternoon light, just discernible were a patch of mouldy cabbages near the front door, the 11th-century cove, some tumbledown outhouses deep in briers, and five pairs of 1820s metal gates, each leading to part of the house or its walled garden. However, the sign of swastika, well below eye level and scrawled on to the rusting iron of the main gate, was not immediately noticeable. Months later this was pointed out by Raymond, now in employment as general factotum and head gardener to the Wauchs.

Despite the immediate sense of belonging, Mrs Waugh felt impelled to look at ten more houses. Then having dispensed with help from the *notaire*, she briskly set about negotiating a price for the manor, which, it transpired, was an old shooting lodge belonging to the local *château*. The former châtelaine, now widowed, had moved to the manor, but because of death duties, the place was for sale. Madame, the vendor, and Mrs Waugh, the potential purchaser, went walking together. Mrs Waugh recalls: "By the time we'd brought the cows home, an hour later, £3,000 was knocked off the asking price." She paid £35,000 for the house, garden and outbuildings.

Shellfish from nearby lakes, home-made mayonnaise and wild peaches are some of the foods found at Périgueux and Thiviers markets, the latter being the *foie gras* capital of France. Mrs Waugh buys it fresh at FF260 (about £27) a kilo, and makes it into terrines.

There are at least six *châteaux* worth visiting in the region, with Jumilhac-le-Grand deemed the loveliest, and the fine 18th-century *Manoir d'Bygnac* is open to visitors too.

Visitors to the famous garden of the nearby *château* of Villandry are always an inspiration for interest-

ing, but six further hectares would be rented, until they also came up for sale. These too now belong to the Wauchs, but as French law dictates that every child is entitled to claim an equal portion of every piece of parental land sold, it took months to get permission from all the offspring.

When her husband, Andrew Waugh (nephew of Evelyn, son of Alec), a retired naval officer, became a victim of Lloyd's, Mrs. Waugh decided to invest her own funds in a house abroad and let it for part of the year. Between lets and throughout the doing-up process, it would fulfil the role of second home. "But what I hadn't counted on", she says of her 25-room acquisition, "is how obsessive one becomes: sleepless nights brooding about paint colours, plumbing, or where to put what."

Deciding how best to redo the house, both inside and out, while still respecting its architecture, she was helped by the trained eye of an American interior decorator, the late Bob Perkins. An old friend, he advised what must go for instance, the original outdoor 19th-century privy with side-by-side loos for two folk. He also decided what would enhance topiary clipped yews and peony trees from the nearby nursery garden, placed just so. A garden seat will bear a plaque in dedication to this good friend, who died earlier this year.

Household from nearby lakes, home-made mayonnaise and wild peaches are some of the foods found at Périgueux and Thiviers markets, the latter being the *foie gras* capital of France. Mrs Waugh buys it fresh at FF260 (about £27) a kilo, and makes it into terrines.

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Entente cordiale: Vivienne Waugh with Raymond, her gardener

ing varieties of salad vegetables and ways to grow them — and searce lettuce, one with jagged edges, which now flourishes in the Rebiere kitchen garden is being used in meals prepared by the Waugh's freelance French lady chef this summer.

The house is most memorable for the details: the sound of nightingales that sing until dawn in summer-time, the taste of walnut bread from the baker at St Jean de Cole. This hamlet, two kms away, is where two more good restaurants are found: Auberge du Coq Rouge and Les Templiers.

So what of the swastika? Vivienne believes the manor to be sufficiently peaceful and that to ask a priest to perform exorcism unnecessary — although she feels the spirit of place strongly in the

woods. There is a sense of it being invisibly peopled. Nor surprising, since many of those escaping the Nazis hid here. Mme Combeau (the aunt of the manor vendor), who also lived here, was a wartime collaborator and sent 11 local Frenchmen to their deaths. Consequently, she was murdered in these woods and in turn, on the same ground, the *maquis* caught up with her lover, a German general.

Raymond has intimated that the people of the area are glad the present-day owners of this Rebiere property are English. In 1941, as a child, he watched his family and many other young with their mothers shot at point-blank range by the enemy in the meadows here. Hence the name, The Martyr Fields. Now, in late spring, this is where the cowslips grow.

The first prize includes return flights on Air France from Gatwick to Bordeaux, and a bottle of the fine Hennessy XO. There will also be a visit to the distillery, the barrel cooperage, the ageing warehouse and the blending room.

Runners-up will each receive

TODAY *The Times*, in association with Hennessy Cognac, is offering readers the chance to win a luxury weekend trip for two to Hennessy's beautiful Château Bagnolot on the banks of the river Charente on the outskirts of Cognac.

The visit in the autumn, will coincide with the grape harvest, so the winner and a partner will be able to enjoy every aspect of the cognac process — the part of the spirit lost in evaporation is known as "the angels' share" — before enjoying a tutored tasting with Maurice Hennessy, an eight-generation member of the Hennessy family.

The first prize includes return flights on Air France from Gatwick to Bordeaux, and a bottle of the fine Hennessy XO. There will also be a visit to the distillery, the barrel cooperage, the ageing warehouse and the blending room.

Win a luxury weekend in cognac country

## The spirit of true harmony



Taste of paradise: Hennessy's Château Bagnolot, near Cognac

Les Bois Ordinaires. The grapes pass from the vine to the press and fermentation, producing a light, dry white wine. The wine is heated in a copper cauldron until it reaches boiling point and the alcohol vapour passes through a copper pipe known as the swan's neck into a condenser. The following day, the resulting liquid from the first distillation is boiled again. It takes nine litres of wine to produce one litre of this young, potent cognac, which is 70 per cent alcohol.

Each year Hennessy distills some 50 million litres of wine. Once distilled, the cognac undergoes the final miracle of ageing in hand-crafted oak casks.

A walk around Hennessy's warehouse, or *chai*, will reveal cognacs dating back well into the last century. It is the oak casks, made from staves naturally weathered for four years, that take the fire out of the cognac and give it its golden colour and wonderful bouquet.

From the thousands of casks of cognac Hennessy's *maître de chai*, Yann Filloux, blends the cognacs the whole world enjoys. He says: "People do not realise that cognac is a blend of dozens, even hundreds, of cognacs of different ages and from many different regions."

The Hennessy range includes Hennessy VS, the three-star cognac which has made Hennessy famous; VSOP Privilege, which is a mature but particularly fine and light cognac; and Hennessy XO, recognisable as one of the world's finest cognacs, which was once reserved only for family and friends. Finally, Hennessy Paradis is a blend of the company's finest cognacs and is found in the leading hotels and restaurants of the world.

Share a glass with the angels



daytime telephone number to: *The Times* / Hennessy Cognac / Air France Competition, 11 Whitefriars Street, London EC8 7NG.

Questions

1 Name two of the four regions from which Hennessy gets its grapes?

2 How many times is the wine distilled before ageing in oak casks begins?

3 How many litres of wine are needed to produce one litre of cognac?

Rules

The competition is open to all UK residents aged 18 and over. Employees of Times Newspapers Ltd, Hennessy Cognac, Air France, their families or agents are not eligible. Entries must be received by Monday, August 3, 1992. Winners will be notified by Friday, August 7, 1992. The editor's decision is final. Times competition rules apply, available on request.

a bottle of Hennessy Cognac VS, the three-star cognac.

How to enter

Answer the three questions, then send your answers on a postcard with your name, address and daytime telephone number to: *The Times* / Hennessy Cognac / Air France Competition, 11 Whitefriars Street, London EC8 7NG.

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# Culture to take in or take away

Business is booming in museums and galleries, where the shops are as popular as the exhibits. Belle Grey reports

**M**ost eight-year-olds are brutally frank about it. It's just we grown-ups who blush to admit that, in any museum, art gallery or National Trust property, our step quickens towards the end when we know we are approaching the tearoom and the shop. All those lovely postcards, mugs, sumptuous wrapping papers and lavishly illustrated books on gardening, needlework or art.

It is only in the past five or six years that our greatest national institutions have come around to the idea that such outposts of commerce will not trivialise the culture the museums embody — although there still remains the odd curator who fears that the promise of shopping will attract the "wrong" people to their erstwhile sanctuaries.

A successful shop brings in essential extra revenue. V&A Enterprises Ltd, which runs the shop at the Victoria & Albert museum as well as a mail-order catalogue and licensing operation, last year ploughed profits of more than £300,000 (plus £60,000 in rent) back into the museum's funds, while Royal Academy Enterprises (shop, framing department and restaurant) last year covenanted profits of £845,000 to the RA.

Such activities also help to publicise both the collections and the image of a museum or gallery, and so bring people in through the doors. As Michelle Stewart, V&A Enterprises' commercial manager, says, its mail-order catalogue (this Christmas more than three million copies will be distributed) is also "a way of reaching out and reminding people how wonderful we are".

The revolution in British museum circles during the latter half of the 1980s was, after all, brought about by the answer to the simple question: who are museums for? Stephen Bayley, the former director of London's Design Museum, says: "You can't win souls in an empty church," and Dr Neil Cossons, the Science Museum's director, holds a similar belief, that museums should market their "product". Under Thatcherism, museums, galleries and other heritage sites

were seen to be part of the leisure and entertainment industry, and were no longer permitted the luxury of remaining dusty backwaters of academic study. At the V&A, trustee Sir Terence Conran not only pressed the case for a shop, but gave free advice on fittings and logos.

Shops in museums and galleries have achieved something more subtle and vital than just earning money, however. They have helped to alter public perceptions about who museums are for. By making such imposing establishments as the Tate, the National Gallery or the Natural History Museum appear more accessible, they have helped to persuade the general public looking for an interesting and informative day out that they are on familiar territory, despite the stone steps, pillars and porticos.

For many people, looking at paintings on a wall, precious objects

beyond. A shop creates the most effective bridge between galleries and the kind of objects with which people feel more comfortable.

And for those who have always enjoyed popping into the National Gallery or the V&A, their shops have added glamour and cachet. The shop becomes another kind of gallery — but here you get to take things home. What better badge of culture than a scarf from the British Museum, a T-shirt from the Royal Academy or a piece of jewellery from the V&A? And no one need be uncertain about their taste — look at the success of the Venus drop-pearl earrings which were copies from a painting in New York's Metropolitan Museum: if they were good enough for Rubens... Or, a few years back, the spectacular popularity of the Tiziano angel-poise lamp, which was one of the objects not only on sale in the shop

at the V&A, during the 1988 show of needlework designer Kaffe Fassett: "people spilled out of the exhibition desperate to buy", says Michael Cass, the head of V&A Enterprises. "It was the same with the *Brontës* exhibition last year."

So how much say does he have in the selection of forthcoming exhibitions? Is it possible that a show might be chosen merely on the projected financial contribution of its associated sales?

"It hasn't happened yet," Mr Cass says, "but there's no reason why it shouldn't." Already, he says, V&A Enterprises is involved in plans for a big exhibition about the Gothic Revival architect and designer A.W.N. Pugin, planned for the mid-1990s. "We're discussing what it is going to be like," Mr Cass

says, "so that it can be a commercial success as well as an aesthetic and educational success."

Of course, more people through the door is the last thing that some "heritage sites", such as Haworth, the home of the Brontës, can cope with. But no museum nowadays would be conceived without a shop at the Museum of the Moving Image you cannot get out of the place without going through it. The emphasis is on establishing a unique style, a corporate image that links the merchandise to the museum itself in an integrated, relevant and balanced manner, both enhancing the cachet of authenticity which is proving so popular and promoting a more user-friendly image of institutions themselves.

Now, where do I pay?

Pop moves to china: ceramics designed for an exhibition last winter

jects in glass cases or fossils in a cabinet will be a difficult and intimidating process. But if the gifts, books and stationery in the shop successfully support the atmosphere and style of the museum, then the shop can go a long way towards demystifying that process.

In the shop, visitors can touch and feel, and there is not the sense of distance there is in the galleries at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, but exhibited in a glass case as well.

Despite the recession in the high street, museum shops are holding their own. A moral and aesthetic superiority clings to their merchandise. Museums are seen as good things, so their wares seem to offer some added value, or special authenticity. We don't mind indulging



Making museums pay: Josephine Lundberg, managing director of Royal Academy Enterprises, which last year earned £845,000 for the RA

ing our children because the books and gifts on sale in the Science Museum must be educational — in other words, we have responded to the declared aim of its shop, to enhance the museum's image as a place that promotes the understanding of science and technology.

Mrs Stewart says even New Year resolutions account for a slight boom in spending. "We're always busy in early spring, when people buy the book on the subject they've always intended to study, or the tapestry kit they've always meant to do," she says.

But the highest sales are linked to exhibitions. Perhaps a third or more of RA Enterprises' profits last year were due to the number of people who saw the Monet exhibition, then lingered to buy. It hopes to do well with sales of Christmas decorations linked to "The Sacred Art of Tibet", an exhibition which opens in September.

**B**ut there have already been accusations, especially where sponsorship is involved, that some special exhibitions can be almost indistinguishable from the "purchasing opportunity" provided downstairs. Frederick Warne, for example, an imprint of Penguin Books that owns copyright to Beatrix Potter's works, has found, that in Japan, an exhibition of Potter's original illustrations stimulated vast sales not only of the books but of the 125 or so licensed products it controls, and these now create greater profits than the books.

At the V&A, during the 1988 show of needlework designer Kaffe Fassett, "people spilled out of the exhibition desperate to buy", says Michael Cass, the head of V&A Enterprises. "It was the same with the *Brontës* exhibition last year." So how much say does he have in the selection of forthcoming exhibitions? Is it possible that a show might be chosen merely on the projected financial contribution of its associated sales?

"It hasn't happened yet," Mr Cass says, "but there's no reason why it shouldn't." Already, he says, V&A Enterprises is involved in plans for a big exhibition about the Gothic Revival architect and designer A.W.N. Pugin, planned for the mid-1990s. "We're discussing what it is going to be like," Mr Cass

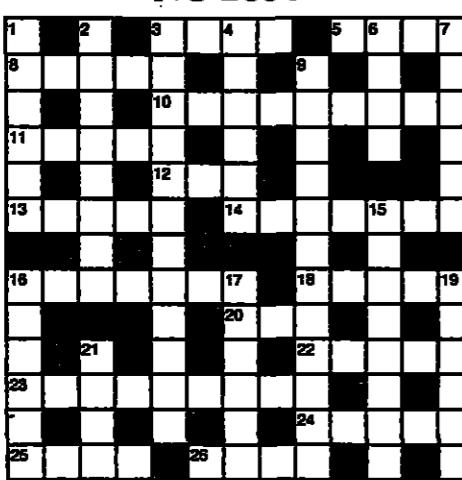
says, "so that it can be a commercial success as well as an aesthetic and educational success."

Of course, more people through the door is the last thing that some "heritage sites", such as Haworth, the home of the Brontës, can cope with. But no museum nowadays would be conceived without a shop at the Museum of the Moving Image you cannot get out of the place without going through it. The emphasis is on establishing a unique style, a corporate image that links the merchandise to the museum itself in an integrated, relevant and balanced manner, both enhancing the cachet of authenticity which is proving so popular and promoting a more user-friendly image of institutions themselves.

Now, where do I pay?

## CONCISE CROSSWORD

NO 2850



**ACROSS**  
3 Column foundation (4)  
5 Cleaner (4)  
8 Join together (5)  
10 American football end zone score (9)  
11 World War One German (5)  
12 Small carpet (3)  
13 Extra dividend (5)  
14 Wearing away (7)  
15 Perpetuated (7)  
16 Fishhook (3,2)  
20 Single (3)  
22 Cut (5)  
23 Standy power source (9)  
24 In union (2,3)  
25 Border (4)  
26 Share (4)  
**DOWN**  
1 Up roar (6)  
2 Nose grip spectacles (8)  
3 Pink Panther star (5,7)  
4 Relaxing room (6)  
5 Bent elbow boxing blow (4)  
6 Bent elbow boxing blow (4)  
7 Fame (6)  
8 Longest running play (3,9)  
10 Actually present (2,6)  
11 Pestilence (6)  
12 Single (3)  
13 Extra dividend (5)  
14 Wearing away (7)  
15 Perpetuated (7)  
16 Fishhook (3,2)  
17 Medicine man (6)  
18 Opt for (6)  
19 Cosy (4)  
**SOLUTIONS TO NO 2849**  
ACROSS: 1 Psycho 3. Aegis 5 Nap 9 Snooker 10 Pathan 11 Kite 12. Inside 14. Advice 15 Tie 16 Forster 18 Troy 19 Beckon 21 In cage 22 Gun 23 Sides 24 Gun  
DOWN: 2 Sons and Lovers 3 Crocodile 4 One-time 5 Appre 6 Get 7 Scandalmonger 13 Scipt 15 Turning 17 Tong 20 Kid

### WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

The chess world was recently saddened to hear of the death of Latvian former world champion Mihail Tal. He was renowned for his brilliant tactical imagination and so this week *The Times* will be featuring positions which demonstrate his genius. This position is from the game Tal — Pletnev, Dubna 1974. Although white can capture black's rook or bishop with check, he actually has a much stronger move. Can you see it?



Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: The Times, 1 Pannington Street, London E1 5AX.

## THE TIMES

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BBC1

5.40 Open University: Designs for Living 7.05 Maths: Modelling Mechanics: Vibrations & Acoustics: Speciality (77385189)  
8.45 News and Weather (4375510)  
8.50 Olympic Grandstand presented by Steve Rider from Barcelona. The line-up includes: Swimming: the fins heats of the women's 100m freestyle, men's 100m breaststroke, women's 400m individual medley and the men's 200m freestyle; shotput and women's a rifle competition. Plus Cricket: the fourth day's play in the fourth Test between England and Pakistan at Headington (53201862)  
12.30 *Country File*. Includes a report by Richard Phillips on how moves are afoot to re-establish the ox into British agriculture (7497404)  
12.55 Weather (70518607)  
1.00 News (5507659) 1.30 *Sign Extra: Schofield's Europe* — Barcelona. Phillip Schofield takes a look at life in the Catalonian area of Spain. He meets writer Manuel Vazquez and Stela, queen of the witches. With signing and subtitles (s) (50592273)  
1.35 *Bazaar* presented by Nerys Hughes. In the last programme of the series, Hudson and Halls reach an understanding with a little help from Claire Rayner (9337220)  
2.00 *EastEnders*. Omnibus edition. (Ceefax) (s) (78353)  
3.00 *Cricket*: Any Old Port in a Storm. Peter Falk stars as the persistent, dishevelled detective. When his playboy brother threatens to sell the family vineyards, a wine connoisseur decides to take desperate measures to ensure that this does not happen (s). (Ceefax) (s) (2171)  
5.00 *Olympic Grandstand* presented by Desmond Lynam from Barcelona. The line-up includes Swimming: live coverage of the men's 100m breaststroke, the women's 100m freestyle, the men's 200m and the women's 400m individual medley. Hockey: Great Britain's men begin the defence of their Olympic title with a match against Egypt; Cycling: the women's Individual road race (17/17)  
7.00 News with Moira Stuart. Weather (779220)



Airs and graces: Bloom, Anthony and Cazenove (7.15pm)

7.15 Film: *The Lady and the Highwayman* (1989). Lysette Anthony and Michael York star in the swashbuckling historical romance based on a Barbara Cartland novel. A bride is saved from the clutches of her lecherous husband by a masked rider who calls himself the Silver Blade. With Claire Bloom and Christopher Cazenove. Directed by John Hough (55965268)  
8.50 Olympics Today. Desmond Lynam rounds up the main events on the first full day of competition in Barcelona (5807355)  
10.20 *Heart of the Matter*: Yugoslavia. The civil war in Yugoslavia has created thousands of refugees. Joan Bakewell asks where does the moral responsibility for these innocent victims lie (342997)  
10.55 *Olympic Grandstand*. Desmond Lynam presents more action from Barcelona. In gymnastics, the women's compulsory team exercises get under way, plus action from the flyweight weightlifting final and boxing (2855572)  
12.00 *Cricket*: Fourth Test. Richie Benaud introduces highlights of the fourth day's play between England and Pakistan (43447)  
12.30am Weather (4573669)

**VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes**  
The numbers now appearing next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers. These are unique video recorder codes which can be used with most video recorders. Tap in the VideoPlus+ number for the programme you want to record. For more details call VideoPlus+ on 0899 121 204. Gals charged at 48p per minute peak, 36p off-peak or 24p at night. VideoPlus+ and Video Programmer are trademarks of Granada Marketing Ltd.

## SATELLITE

## SKY ONE

• Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites  
6.00am Hour of Power (47572) 7.30 Fun Factory (7829567) 11.30 The World Tomorrow (59713) 12.00 Lost in Space (58393) 1.00pm Chopper Squad (74978) 2.00 Hart to Hart (16539) 3.00 Eight & Enough (16538) 4.00 The Big Picture (6333) 6.00 American Wrestling (6333) 6.00 Growing Pains (65607) 7.30 The Simpsons (7559) 7.00 Booker (99201) 8.00 21 Jump Street (15249) 9.00 All-Time Great TV Censored Bloopers (28713) 10.00 Falcon Crest (88572) 11.00 12.00 Entertainment Tonight (23317)

## SKY NEWS

• Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites  
News on the hour.  
6.00am Sunrise (6552930) 9.30 Talking with David Frost (28529) 10.30 Talking with David Frost (76569) 11.30 Travel Disposers (6512) 12.30pm Financial Times Business Weekly (70044) 1.30 Target (71132) 2.30 Evening Report (64773) 3.30 The Weather Channel (59713) 4.00 The Days (6034) 5.00 Live at Five (47133) 6.30 Evening Report (64274) 7.30 Financial Times Business Weekly (59588) 8.30 Target (68517) 10.30 Evening Report (64065) 11.30 ABC News (65107) 12.30 The Weather Channel (59713) 1.30 Target (2195) 3.30 Travel Disposers (17640) 4.30 Target (42263) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (91008)

## SKY MOVIES+

• Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites  
6.00am Showcase (55889)  
8.00 Coast to Coast (1980): Dyan Cannon escapes from a mental hospital (1980). Tom Conti's brother comes to stay (80539)

**THE MOVIE CHANNEL**

• Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites  
6.15am His Excellency (65105) b/w: Altrair unionists谷歌 a colony (50335)  
8.15 Virgin Island (1995): A cold dream (1995) 10.00 The Virgin Island (1995) 11.00 Buffalo Bill (1994): Fictional account of the western hero (61607)  
12.15pm Miss Broadway (1989): Holly Hunter enters a local talent contest (43950)  
2.15pm *Home Alone* (1990): Dan Everett (Macaulay Culkin) and his brother (956423)  
4.15pm *Dick Tracy* (1990): Warren Beatty stars as the comic-strip crime fighter (835591)  
6.15 Almost an Angel (1990): Comedy stars Paul Hogan and Linda Kozlowski (835592)  
8.15 *Home Alone* (1990): Romantic comedy stars Macaulay Culkin (139822)  
10.05 *The Guardian* (1990): Nanny Neige is a police officer (61604)  
11.00 *Home Alone* (1990): Comedy stars Macaulay Culkin (139822)  
11.10am *The China Lake Murders* (1990): Tom Skerritt investigates (148737)  
2.45pm *Home Alone* (1990): Brian Conley (Macaulay Culkin) and his brother (61607)  
4.30pm *Home Alone* (1990): Dan Everett (Macaulay Culkin) and his brother (956423)  
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BBC2

6.30 Open University: Maths Methods Line Integrals 7.00 Modern Art: Dali and Surrealism 7.25 Cellular Signals 7.50 Culture and Belief in Europe 8.15 Oceanography 8.40 Patterns in the Dust (18247572)  
9.05 *Articles of Faith*: Prayer... How to Begin. In the first of three programmes, Dr Una Kroll shares ways which may help to lead to a deeper understanding of God (s) (713117)  
9.20 *This is the Day*. Noel Battle visits Gatwick Airport for prayer and reflection with those who look after the travellers (532959)  
9.35 *News and Weather* (5507659) 10.20 Social Science: Regions Apart? 11.10 *Looking Forward to Summer School* 11.35 Arts: Melodrama (4112535)  
12.00 *The Ship that Never Returned*. When the lighthouse on the remote island of Bardsey off the north Wales coast became automated, Harry Whitehouse was forced to leave a way of life he had known for more than three decades (94220)  
12.30 *Olympic Grandstand* presented by Steve Rider from Barcelona. The line-up includes: Swimming: the fins heats of the women's 100m freestyle, men's 100m breaststroke, women's 400m individual medley and the men's 200m freestyle; shotput and women's a rifle competition. Plus Cricket: the fourth day's play in the fourth Test between England and Pakistan at Headington (53201862)  
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12.55 Weather (70518607)

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